

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

REMEMBERING EUGENE
MCCAMMON

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise to remember Eugene Blair McCammon of New Springfield, Ohio who passed away last Thursday, June 17, 2010.

Mr. McCammon was born on May 15, 1927, in Youngstown, Ohio and worked as a railroad yard clerk for the Erie Lackawanna Railroad and as a school bus driver for the Boardman schools. He served the community of New Springfield as a member of the VFW, a member of the Church of God, an EMT, and a volunteer firefighter.

After his graduation from Rayen High School, he served in the United States Navy and later enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. In November and December of 1950, Eugene McCammon fought in the Battle of Chosin Reservoir known as the Frozen Chosin and fought by the Chosin Few. Following the onslaught of the Chinese Army across the Yalu River, U.S. and U.N. forces were overwhelmed and began a seventeen-day battle as a Siberian cold front dropped the temperature to 35 degrees below zero. The fighting at Chosin Reservoir was some of the most violent small unit fighting in the history of American warfare as our forces struggled along a 78-mile-long narrow road toward the port of Hungnam. Eugene McCammon received a Purple Heart and a Silver Star for gallantry in action and valor in the face of the enemy.

Mr. McCammon is survived by two daughters, Kathleen Connolly and Jeri Westover, his nephew Robert McLaughlin, two brothers, Earl McCammon and Donald McCammon, two sisters, Rose Margaret Maizel and Dorothy Wiscott, granddaughter Molly Kathleen, and many friends and extended family members.

On behalf of a grateful Nation we remember the patriotic service and the life of our friend and neighbor Eugene Blair McCammon.

RECOGNIZING KEITH BURKE, RECIPIENT OF THE ARIZONA GANG INVESTIGATORS ASSOCIATION'S LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Keith Burke of Tempe, the recipient of the Arizona Gang Investigators Association's Lifetime Achievement Award. Keith has dedicated the past 18 years of his career to the development of gang prevention programs in the city of Tempe. As a former mayor and lifelong resident of Tempe, and now my hometown's representative in Con-

gress, I wish to congratulate Keith on this achievement and thank him for his efforts within our community.

Keith's commitment to the development of Escalante Community Center has made a tremendous positive impact on that neighborhood and the broader community. His dedication and leadership helped lead to the expansion of the Escalante Community Center, which has grown from 3,000 square feet to 37,000 square feet. These facilities operate as an essential tool to provide a safe and entertaining place for teenagers and children.

Through the center, Keith has established programs geared toward reducing gang-related crimes. His efforts at the Escalante Community Center have provided a model for similar community centers throughout Tempe.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Keith Burke, a truly valuable and inspirational member of our community, for earning this Lifetime Achievement Award.

EAGLE SCOUT RECOGNITION

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize three outstanding young men from Montross, Virginia who have exhibited the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in Troop 252 of the Boy Scouts of America and earning the prestigious title of Eagle Scout. Each of the scouts selflessly dedicated his time and resources to benefit the surrounding community, and they are all fine representatives of my hometown.

Murphy Bailey, a 2009 graduate of Washington and Lee High School, used his Eagle Scout project to help the citizens of nearby Kinsale, Virginia, pouring concrete bases and building picnic tables to enhance visitors' experiences in the town park. Murphy is currently farming in Westmoreland County.

Trent Jones, a recent graduate of Washington and Lee High School, rebuilt a dilapidated fence at Beulah Baptist Church in Lyelles, Virginia. Trent raised the project funds, formulated a budget, and managed the workers who assisted in the fence's reconstruction. Trent plans to attend Virginia Tech in the fall.

G. E. "Bubby" Miles, also a recent graduate of Washington and Lee High School, volunteered a considerable amount of his time at the Cople District Fire Department in Coles Point. Bubby plans to attend college in the fall.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Murphy Bailey, Trent Jones, and Bubby Miles for their accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for the efforts each of them put forth in achieving the prestigious rank of Eagle Scout.

CONGRATULATING SEAN NANK, RECIPIENT OF THE PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE TEACHING

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sean Nank, a teacher at El Camino High School in Oceanside, California and congratulate him on receiving the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST). This remarkable achievement is the highest recognition that a kindergarten through twelfth grade mathematics or science teacher may receive for outstanding teaching in the United States.

Mr. Nank has proven to be an outstanding educator who has taken his teaching to the next level. This prestigious award justly recognizes his curriculum content that has led to enhanced student learning through unique classroom instruction.

With 13 years of teaching experience, Mr. Nank is currently a secondary mathematics teacher of Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II courses. He has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to the needs of students by promoting the principles of a quality and challenging curriculum.

PAEMST is administered by the National Science Foundation on behalf of The White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. This award recognizes teachers for their outstanding contributions to teaching and learning and their ability to help students make progress in mathematics and science.

As a well deserving recipient of this tremendous award, I am honored to represent constituents in the 49th District who are devoted to furthering the educational advancement of our nation's young people and encouraging and inspiring our next generation of leaders. This award represents a heartfelt salute of appreciation to Mr. Nank as an extraordinary teacher committed to helping students achieve academic success.

Madam Speaker, I would like to commend Mr. Nank's leadership and his dedication to advancing excellence in mathematics. Once again, I congratulate him on receiving this incredible honor and applaud his contributions to the education of future generations.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF SGT JOSHUA AKONI SABLAN LUKEALA

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the service and sacrifice of

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

United States Army Sergeant Joshua Akoni Sablan Lukeala. SGT Lukeala served in the 101st Airborne Division's Air Assault team based out of Fort Campbell, Kentucky, and on June 9, 2010, SGT Lukeala passed away in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. He was 23 years old.

SGT Lukeala was born on February 19, 1987, to Anthony and Dorothy Lukeala of Yigo, Guam. The son of a retired Army veteran and Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps instructor, SGT Lukeala's career began with the JROTC at Simon Sanchez High School where he excelled as an expert marksman. In 2005, he enlisted in the U.S. Army soon after his high school graduation. He was deployed to Iraq under the Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division in 2007, and during his deployment, SGT Lukeala was wounded by an improvised explosive device that detonated nearby while on foot patrol. The force of the blast caused SGT Lukeala to suffer partial hearing loss, and he was later awarded the Purple Heart in recognition of his service in Iraq.

Although he sustained injuries during his previous tour in Iraq, SGT Lukeala continued his service to our nation with the 101st Airborne Division in support of operations in Afghanistan. His commitment to the cause of freedom and to serving our nation on multiple tours of duty is to be commended. On June 9, 2010, SGT Lukeala paid the ultimate sacrifice in answering the call of duty, and I join our community in mourning the loss of SGT Lukeala and, on behalf of a grateful nation, I offer condolences to his wife, Deniece Nave Lukeala; his daughter; his parents, Anthony and Dorothy Lukeala; his brother, Anthony Keoni Lukeala; and to his many family and friends. We will never forget the sacrifice SGT Lukeala made for our freedom.

May God bless the family and friends of SGT Joshua Akoni Sablan Lukeala, God bless Guam, and God bless the United States of America.

IN MEMORY OF FRED LEWIS
"SONNY" ANDERSON, JR.

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. ELLISON. Madam Speaker, it is with great sadness I rise today to mourn the passing of my friend and Minnesota criminal defense investigator, Fred Lewis "Sonny" Anderson, Junior.

Sonny was born and raised in Minneapolis and graduated from North High School in 1966. He went on to attend the University of Minnesota, where he majored in criminal justice. He served his country in the United States Army from 1968–1970, and later served his community for 25 years as a Criminal Defense Investigator with the Legal Rights Center in the Hennepin County Public Defender's Office. Sonny was an avid sportsman, and was a loving and loyal father, son, brother, uncle, grandfather and friend.

Sonny was the Chief Investigator during my tenure as Executive Director at the Legal Rights Center in Minneapolis, MN. Through Sonny's tireless and courageous work, many Minnesotans received high quality representa-

tion without regard to income or wealth. Sonny's pursuit of the truth was relentless. He stopped at nothing to find the elusive witness, document, or film footage for the sake of truth and justice. Sonny always worked for the indigent criminal defendant, but he believed that the quality of justice his clients received was a barometer for the quality of justice to which everyone is entitled.

Madam Speaker, Sonny had a profound impact on his country, his community, his friends and family, and will be missed by all who knew him.

MAJOR GENERAL DOUGLAS BURNETT, FLORIDA'S ADJUTANT GENERAL, RETIRES AFTER 47 YEARS IN UNIFORM

HON. C. W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Madam Speaker, our state of Florida and our nation will lose one of our nation's uniformed heroes Friday when Florida Adjutant General, Major General Douglas Burnett, retires after serving our state as Adjutant General for almost nine years.

In fact his 47 years, four months and 12 days in uniform make him our nation's longest serving Air Force officer. That is correct, General Burnett led the Florida National Guard while wearing a blue Air Force uniform. He was the first Air Guard officer selected by a Governor to lead Florida's National and Air Guard.

General Burnett led his troops with passion and compassion. He rose through the ranks of a life-long National Guard career, beginning as an enlisted aircraft radio repairman in 1963 and securing his officer's commission and flight wings in 1969. Throughout his career, he served at all levels of the Florida Guard, including five tours as Assistant Adjutant General Air and Commander of the Florida Air Guard.

Florida Governor Jeb Bush recognized this strong and steady record of leadership when just two months after one of our nation's darkest days, September 11, 2001, he selected General Burnett to serve as Florida's Adjutant General. It was a tall task for any officer but the right task for this General.

General Burnett quickly established the respect and confidence of his troops as he over saw a force of 11,000 soldiers and airmen who deployed to two wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, responded to 14 hurricanes, five dangerous years of forest fires, untold tornadoes, and even a mission to secure the U.S.-Mexico border. In fact, the current deployment of Florida Guardsmen in support of Operation Enduring Freedom is the largest deployment of Florida troops since World War II.

Despite this hectic pace of operations over the past nine years, General Burnett never lost site of his mission to ensure the readiness of his troops and availability of the equipment they would need to carry out their missions safely and successfully. First and foremost, though, was the morale of his guardsmen and their families. As he told the Florida Air National Guard publication *The Eagle's Eye*, "I felt that when you get to know the people and you get to know their mission and you get to

know their needs, you can lead them better. I really dug in to know the culture, the needs."

Following my remarks, Madam Speaker, I will include the full story about General Burnett entitled "A Leader's Legacy" written by Master Sergeant Thomas Kielbasa because it captures the essence of a leader who carries out his duties equally focused on his mission and the needs of his troops.

My wife Beverly and I know of General Burnett's commitment to standing up for the needs of his troops. We took many of his calls and e-mails in the middle of the night when others tried to deploy his troops with insufficient equipment, when they left his troops sitting on a tarmac without an aircraft waiting to return home, or when they readied his troops for deployment by putting them in inferior housing. Together we solved those problems but only because General Burnett had the courage to stand up for his troops and their families.

As a career guardsman, General Burnett knew that there is no distinction between the abilities and professionalism of guard and active duty troops. And he always made sure that our nation's military leadership knew that and respected the special skills of our Citizen Soldiers.

Throughout his life in uniform, General Burnett served side by side with his wife Judy who shared his commitment to taking care of the needs of his soldiers and particularly their families. She understood the stress of long deployments on spouses and children. This included financial and emotional strains.

Madam Speaker, Major General Douglas Burnett has raised the bar to a new level when it comes to leadership. He has devoted his life to securing our state and securing our nation. He has helped shepherd us through some of our most difficult and dangerous times and done it with great skill. He has also trained his replacement, Major General Emmett R. Titshaw, Jr., well as this Air Guardsman will step right in prepared to lead Florida's troops wherever their mission takes them.

Our nation owes a tremendous debt of gratitude to Major General Douglas Burnett for his lifetime of service to our state and our nation and to the cause of freedom and liberty. He has followed in the greatest tradition of all those who have worn our nation's uniform from the Minutemen, our nation's earliest citizen soldiers, to the heroes who continue to carryout the international war on terrorism.

In behalf of the people of Florida and the United States of America, and all those General Burnett has served with and led these past 47 years, thank you for a job well done.

[From *The Eagle's Eye*]

A LEADER'S LEGACY: MAJOR GENERAL DOUGLAS BURNETT, ADJUTANT GENERAL OF FLORIDA, REFLECTS ON 47 YEARS OF SERVICE

(By Master Sgt. Thomas Kielbasa)

ST. AUGUSTINE, FL (June 17, 2010).—It's been a long, fast flight for Douglas Burnett. His career took off on a sunny morning nearly 50 years ago when he was a young Airman climbing into the cockpit of an F-102 fighter jet to repair a pilot's radio.

In what felt like just a few heartbeats to the Florida Guardsman and aspiring jet pilot, his career sped by like a supersonic fighter.

Now the 65-year-old major general and current Adjutant General of Florida knows his 47 years of military service are nearly over.

On June 26 Maj. Gen. Burnett will retire from the Florida National Guard, but he clearly remembers that day he first sat in a fighter jet and decided to make a lifetime commitment to the National Guard.

"It seems like yesterday," the general said during a recent interview at his home in St. Augustine. "I came back from tech school as an electronics specialist and I went out onto the flight line to repair a radio. I had to get into the cockpit to make sure it worked, and there was something about it that was bigger than anything I had seen in my life. Just sitting in that airplane . . . that was just a really big deal."

That moment in 1963 jumpstarted the young Burnett's career as an Air Force officer and fighter pilot, and when that career ends after 47 years, four months and 12 days, it will set a record making him the longest serving Air Force officer.

A CAREER TAKES OFF

A native of Jacksonville, Fla., Burnett grew up interested in electronics and developed a strong respect for the military that led him to enlist in the Florida Air National Guard. Shortly after high school he attended basic training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, and then the U.S. Air Force Electronics School at Keesler Air Force Base, Miss. For the next six years he served at the 125th Fighter Group in Jacksonville as an aircraft radio repairman.

"Being around folks in the Air Guard was just a joy to me," he recollected. "I was into drag racing at the time; the guys that had the best looking cars and the fastest cars were in the Air Guard as well."

With his sights set on being a fighter pilot and an officer, he earned a degree in Business Administration from the University of Southern Mississippi and received a direct commission in 1969. After fighter pilot training he was no longer just dreaming of flying the F-102 Delta Dagger, but was actually a full-time alert pilot and later a commercial pilot for Pan American World Airways and United Airlines.

After holding several key positions in the Florida Air National Guard and accumulating more than 20,000 flying hours in everything from the F-102 Delta Dagger to the C-130 Hercules, Burnett was selected as the Adjutant General of Florida in late 2001.

ENGAGED LEADERSHIP

For the first time in the history of the Florida National Guard an Air Guard officer had been chosen to lead the more than 12,000 Soldiers and Airmen in the state. This broke the tradition of only Army general officers serving as The Adjutant General (TAG) of Florida.

"I had spent many years in the Florida Air National Guard and I knew my service—the 'blue suit' side—pretty well," the general explained. "As the new TAG I knew I had to get knee-deep into Soldier things—right down to the equipment our Soldiers used—everything."

Burnett admitted he had a learning curve to familiarize himself with every aspect of the Army National Guard; he studied everything from basic Infantry tactics to even learning the proper usage of the word "Hooah."

"I learned the Army language," he said. "It's almost like being bilingual . . . you come to appreciate the Army's culture, which is the rugged business of 'fieldcraft.'"

Throughout the next nine years Maj. Gen. Burnett would be seen jumping into a foxhole next to a young private to test a .50-calibre machine gun, looking under the hood of a mud-speckled Humvee, and even donning a Kevlar helmet to watch engineers rig explosives. Soldiers throughout the state would stare wide-eyed as the two-star gen-

eral approached them, asked about their jobs or families, and discussed the similarities between the Army and the Air Force.

"There are a lot of similarities," Burnett said. "That crew chief on the flight line is just as committed to working in tough conditions as that Army Infantry Soldier who is out there in the foxhole and crawling through the mud."

He admitted that some people might call his leadership style "micromanagement," but he calls it "engaged leadership."

"I felt that when you get to know the people and you get to know their mission and you get to know their needs, you can lead them better," he explained. "I really dug in to know the culture, the needs."

WARTIME TAG

When he assumed the role of Adjutant General in November 2001, Maj. Gen. Burnett knew he was taking charge during an unprecedented time in the Florida National Guard. The Sept. 11 terrorist attacks were fresh wounds on the American psyche, and no one could exactly predict how that would affect those serving in uniform; during the next nine years the "Global War on Terrorism" would draw the talents of more than 11,000 Florida Army National Guard Soldiers and Airmen to locations and combat zones around the world.

"Not only were we engaged in combat operations in two wars in Afghanistan and Iraq and other places in harm's way, but we responded to 14 hurricanes, five firefighting seasons, major tornadoes, and we've done it all at the same time," the general noted. "And while we were doing this we also sent Florida Guardsmen to the U.S.-Mexico border security mission called 'Operation Jump Start.'"

Burnett said this showed the Department of Defense, the Departments of the Army and Air Force, and the National Guard Bureau, that "Florida can fight major wars, respond to natural disasters and still perform domestic security operations at the same time. The nation has a right to expect us to step up in all three venues."

But as the Florida National Guard moved into the uncharted territory of a 21st century battlefield, the general met the challenges and pressures of being a "wartime TAG."

"I can think of many occasions that kept me up at night," Burnett admitted. "The rapid deployment of the 53rd Brigade to Iraq in 2002 was one of the roughest periods, because we literally called Soldiers the day after Christmas and in five or six days we were moving them to Fort Stewart."

He said the biggest question he kept asking himself was whether the more than 1,500 Florida National Guard Soldiers were trained enough for combat operations against Saddam Hussein's forces.

"I was concerned if we had the right weapons," he explained. "For example, body armor: we did not start with the Interceptor body armor that the Active Duty had. And we didn't know if we were going to have it until right before we went through that berm between Jordan and Iraq. I was very concerned we weren't going to have it."

Thanks to support by congressional leaders, National Guard Soldiers and Airmen throughout Florida were equipped and ready, Burnett noted.

"Our congressional delegation has been magnificent in our support of the Florida National Guard, particularly in the funding of new equipment," he said. "The Constitution says that the Congress will equip the Guard, and they've done that. Congressman C.W. Bill Young has been an absolute hero in leading the charge for the modernization of equipment and facilities for the Florida Na-

tional Guard. Our senators and the rest of the delegation have been superb as well."

Later in 2003 uncertainty about the redeployment dates of the Florida Infantry units serving in Iraq brought a storm of media coverage and outcry from concerned family members. The general's answer was to address the concerns of the families and the public directly during a series of unprecedented and personal "town hall meetings."

"Initially our Soldiers believed they would only be gone for six months," Maj. Gen. Burnett recollected. "As it became obvious they would spend a year of 'boots on the ground' our families were frightened and they were frustrated. I felt the only way to get the message to them was to do it personally."

In a little over a week he participated in ten meetings from South Florida to the Panhandle, meeting with family groups and letting them know why the Soldiers would continue to serve in the combat zone.

"It was a pick-up game at that point; things were changing daily," he said. "I was working on behalf of the governor to carry facts to these families. And it was a very difficult mission because the senior leaders in Iraq were telling Guardsmen that they were going to be going home at the six-month point. And the information I was getting from the Pentagon was that we were going to be there for a year. I had to go out and deliver that news, and it was very difficult to look these families in the eyes and tell them their Soldiers would be gone another six months."

"NOT YOUR GRANDFATHER'S NATIONAL GUARD"

The extensive deployments for the Soldiers and Airmen of the Florida National Guard after 2001 demanded a commitment to a tenet that the Adjutant General addressed throughout his career: Readiness.

"Readiness and high states of readiness are confidence builders," he explained. "These successes ensure (Department of Defense) support and Congressional funding. You just can't operate a National Guard with anything less than the highest standards."

Burnett's mantra of the Guard moving from "a force in reserve to a force in being" was echoed throughout the Florida National Guard during his tenure and evidenced each time an Army or Air unit left for deployment. He said Active Duty counterparts and Florida citizens deserved to know how ready and reliable the Florida National Guard actually was, especially during high-profile missions like Operations Noble Eagle, Iraqi Freedom, or Enduring Freedom.

"I think we've been able to transcend a lot of concerns about Guard readiness in the past, because over seven years of combat operations in Afghanistan and Iraq they have found the Guard highly capable," he said.

The general pointed to high ratings by the Florida Air National Guard on Operational Readiness Inspections, and by the Florida Army National Guard on Command Logistics Review inspections, as proof of this.

"That's the way to send the signal that we 'get it,'" he said. "This is not your grandfather's National Guard."

"I really hope the commitment to excellence that I've tried to instill, has become a mindset in our Soldiers and Airmen," Burnett added. "If you don't want to be part of the best National Guard state in America, you probably don't want to serve here. And I can assure you that almost all of our people feel that way. We have fighter pilots wanting to join the 125th Fighter Wing because of its high standards of excellence. We have young people that stay with us on the Army side because they want to be on a winning team. And we are a winning team."

LEGACY OF PEOPLE

When he entered the military during the heyday of the Cold War, Airman Burnett was

working with equipment and aircraft that now can probably only be seen in military museums. Almost half a century later the Guard's equipment has changed, but the high level of commitment and service found in its people has remained.

According to the Adjutant General, he believes his own commitment to those members of the Florida National Guard's enlisted and officer corps will serve as his lasting legacy.

"I would hope that my biggest legacy is that I was a leader who was engaged in the full spectrum of our missions, but was mostly concerned about people," he said. "Because, it is the people that make the National Guard what it is. We've always done the missions even though we haven't always had the best equipment. We've got good equipment now, but it's the same great people we've always had."

Burnett lauded the non-commissioned officers (NCOs) he has served with during his long career, noting that while their professionalism has remained high, they have become increasingly "technically and professionally proficient" over the years.

"I still hold in awe the NCOs that led us during the 60s, the 70s and the 80s; they were absolutely astounding," he explained. "We've always had strong NCOs, but they've stepped up, they're taking on more responsibility earlier, they're exerting strong leadership skills earlier."

He noted that as a senior leader he always tried to focus his own energy on meeting the needs of the junior enlisted and junior officers.

"I've been concerned with making sure our leaders understand how important it is to reach out to every individual Guardsman so that they know how important we think they are," he said. "And they are very important to us."

The general and his wife Judy were also ever-present supporters of the Guard's expanding Family Readiness initiatives; whether it was at a unit deployment or a welcome-home ceremony, the Burnetts could be found meeting with Soldiers, Airmen, and their Families.

"I've been honored to serve alongside some unbelievable people, both Army and Air," he said. "I've tried to shift our focus from simply taking care of Soldiers and Airmen to actually meeting our service members' expectations. Let me tell you, there's a big difference between taking care of Guardsmen and meeting their expectations. You have to think a little more and you certainly have to work a lot harder."

FINAL APPROACH

Each generation of Guardsmen has a leader that represents its period of service, and those Florida Soldiers and Airmen who served during the first decade of the 21st Century will see Burnett as this generation's leader. After Maj. Gen. Burnett hangs up his uniform for the final time, he will stand among those leaders who helped carry on a tradition of military service in Florida that stretches back to 1565.

"I'm going to miss the people," Burnett said. "That is what this business is all about; being around Guardsmen has been my life."

He said he won't miss the status or the rank that went with being the Adjutant General, but rather will miss wearing his military uniform and interacting with his fellow Guard members.

"I'll miss wearing the uniform because it identifies you with people who have a similar commitment to something bigger than yourself," he added. "For me the National Guard has been my passion. I loved to fly, but being able to make a difference and make the lives of our people better is a passion that has consumed me. That is what I'll miss."

As his 47-year-long sortie comes to an end, and he pushes back the cockpit canopy of an historic career one last time, Douglas Burnett will know the flight lasted just a few seconds—nearly 1.5 billion seconds.

And the Florida National Guard is grateful for every second he has given to our state and nation. Well done, sir . . . well done!

CONGRATULATING KELLER INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR WINNING THE 2010 TEXAS SAFE SCHOOLS AWARD

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Keller Independent School District in Keller, Texas. Keller ISD is the winner of the 2010 Texas Safe School Award, which is given to the school district with the most comprehensive security plan in the State.

Keller ISD has implemented a system where campus doors are locked and visitors are buzzed in at one or two locations. At most schools, visitors are routed directly to the office where drivers' licenses are scanned through the Raptor System. The program compares the identification with sex offender databases and issues an alert if necessary. The system also prints out a sticker with the person's name and driver's license photo.

Districts were judged on their collaborative efforts with local law enforcement and emergency personnel, the number of student resource officers, staff development and student training for emergencies, violence and drug abuse prevention, anti-bullying and safe dating initiatives, mentoring and community participation and innovations.

Madam Speaker, I would like to submit for the Record the names of the Keller ISD staff that were instrumental in achieving this honor:

Jeff Baker—Director of Planning and Development

Cliff Jaynes—Coordinator of Emergency Management and Security

Danny Mitchell—Security Specialist

Scott Kessel—Director of Guidance and Counseling

Marcene Weatherall—Coordinator of Drug and Alcohol Prevention

The Texas School Safety Center solicits nominations each year for districts that demonstrate a multi-layered approach to security. The award will be presented at the annual Texas Safe Schools Conference.

Madam Speaker, I proudly rise today to recognize Keller ISD, winner of the 2010 Texas Safe School Award. Keller ISD is to be highly commended for their ongoing efforts to ensure the safety of its students, faculty and staff. It is an honor to represent Keller ISD in the U.S. House of Representatives.

IN HONOR OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE WILLIAM A. OBERLE, JR.

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize today the career

of the Honorable State Representative William A. Oberle, Jr. A member of Delaware's General Assembly for over 34 years, Representative Oberle has served his constituents, his community and his state with genuine devotion, and his presence will be greatly missed.

For over three decades Bill has worked diligently as a representative of the 24th Representative District, ensuring that his constituents have had a strong voice in the General Assembly. I worked with Bill for eight years at Legislative Hall in Dover, Delaware and was able to witness first hand his steadfastness and spirit. Bill will leave behind an indelible legacy in the General Assembly—for his countless years of dedicated service and, most of all, for his outstanding commitment to the constituents whom he represented. His history of determination and resolve serves as a template for all public servants.

Bill holds the distinct title of the General Assembly's longest serving Republican ever, which he achieved through years of hard work, putting aside party differences and reaching across the aisle to arrive at policies which were most beneficial to his constituents and the state of Delaware. Over his career, Bill has been the champion of imperative legislation which brought much needed change to our state. A strong labor supporter, his work on the issues of neighborhood schooling, workers compensation, and the support he lent to various police forces have been efficacious in elevating Delaware's communities.

I am proud to have served with Bill for the eight years that I did, and pleased to have this opportunity to honor him on the occasion of his retirement from the Delaware House of Representatives. He has been unwavering in his mission to represent the 24th Representative District, and will be remembered for his countless contributions to his constituents, and the state of Delaware. Bill has had a terrific career of public service and I wish both him and his wife, Sally, the best on this momentous occasion.

SUPPORTING NATIONAL HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS WEEK

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2010

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 1330, a resolution that supports the goals and ideals of National Hurricane Preparedness Week. I also want to thank my colleague, the honorable MARIO DIAZ-BALART, for introducing this important resolution.

My district is in the wake of many hurricanes that make their way into the Gulf of Mexico. Hurricane season has a profound impact on our way of life in the gulf. Hurricane season is upon us, and with it comes the distinct possibility of Mother Nature wreaking more havoc on our gulf coast. Our oceans are in peril. Reams of film from the field reach all of our doorsteps, pictures of oil covered birds, ailing mammals, and other creatures that couldn't possibly survive the copious amounts of oil. The harm done to our gulf is already at an unprecedented level.

Unfortunately, as long as oil plumes continue to form nebulous clouds of black a mile

beneath the deep blue sea, we will continue to push that unprecedented level of destruction even further, continue to see our gulf shores littered with amorphous lumps of oil, continue to see the gulf coast crowded with sick animals, continue to see the gulf fishing industry suffer.

Lost in the discussion of Sunday's World Refugee Day was the group of internally displaced individuals from Ike, Rita, and especially Katrina.

For example, our latest hurricane, Hurricane Ike, wreaked havoc on Texas, particularly in Galveston and Houston. As we moved forward with recovery efforts, it was clear that the impact of this storm had been widespread and many people were still in need of assistance.

Hurricane Ike pummeled the Texas Gulf Coast, resulting in at least 38 deaths in Texas, evacuation of over 1 million residents, hundreds more are either missing or remain unaccounted for, over 2,000 residents were rescued from harrowing conditions, and more than \$11 billion worth of damage according to preliminary estimates, making this the most costly storm in Texas history.

In the weeks that followed Hurricane Ike, over 2.5 million families struggled to survive with no electricity, including no air conditioning in the sweltering heat, which had a particularly severe impact on the elderly, disabled, impoverished and other vulnerable populations. Clearly, we need to invest substantial funds to improve our electric grids to ensure that the disparate impact on vulnerable populations is corrected and never allowed to reoccur.

Just as we saw in the Ninth Ward of New Orleans, Louisiana Post-Hurricane Katrina, internally displaced individuals from hurricanes do not receive the proper access to government aid to rebuild and recover. In fact, there is still a desperate need of housing and much more rebuilding that needs to be done to restore previous hurricane disaster victims and assist the residents who remain there.

We cannot allow the hurricane victims to be forgotten. Throughout our Post-Hurricane recovery efforts, many individuals have had difficulties and challenges getting the government aid that they need to rebuild after the storm. Many lost their jobs or are at risk of losing their employment due to damages incurred by the hurricane.

There are men, women, and children who have lost so much due to flood waters and storm winds. I have been proud to stand up repeatedly in Congress to fight on their behalf by securing the necessary federal funds. We must work together to ensure that our nation does its part to help hurricane victims fully recover by ensuring the delivery of funds that we worked so hard to appropriate. As a senior Member of the House Homeland Security Committee, which has oversight over the Federal Emergency Management Administration, FEMA, I am working to ensure that our communities respond expeditiously to natural disasters. The protection of our homeland and the security of our neighborhoods are at the forefront of my agenda.

While Hurricane Ike has left an enormous amount of devastation, it has demonstrated yet again the amazing unity, strength and resilience that Texans possess. Whether rich or poor, black or white, young or old, Democrat or Republican, everyone has been working together to respond, recover, rebuild and move forward.

We must work together to improve access to housing and the critical infrastructure necessary to ensure that the residents of North Galveston and their communities are safe. Where unacceptable vulnerabilities remain, swift action must be taken to eliminate them. I am committed to ensuring the implementation of such action.

My friends, this oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico threatens the livelihood of the citizens of the south central region of these United States, and deprives all Americans of the beauty and reasonable use of the seas and its inhabitants. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

IN RECOGNITION OF MS. BECKY PISCITELLA

HON. MARK S. CRITZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. CRITZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Becky Piscitella, an outstanding teacher who was awarded the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST) by President Barack Obama earlier this month.

Ms. Piscitella teaches eleventh grade mathematics at Richland High School, located in Johnstown, Pennsylvania. She is the only teacher in Pennsylvania to receive this prestigious award this year.

The PAEMST award is given annually to the country's top pre-college level science and mathematics teachers. Ms. Piscitella's award is well deserved as her work promotes science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education. The opportunity for students to receive STEM education is crucial for our nation's competitiveness and future economic welfare. I am delighted that students in the 12th Congressional District of Pennsylvania are able to become the next generation of innovators and leaders because of educators like Ms. Piscitella.

Madam Speaker, I conclude my remarks by congratulating her on this exceptional recognition of her talents, her dedication, and her passion for helping our students succeed. I wish her well as she continues to inspire our young scholars.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I submit the following remarks regarding my absence from votes which occurred on June 22, 2010. Listed below is how I would have voted if I had been present.

Roll No. 376—H. Con. Res. 288—supporting National Men's Health Week—"aye"; Roll No. 377—H. Res. 546—recognizing the historical significance of Juneteenth Independence Day, and expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that history should be regarded as a means for understanding the past and more effectively facing the challenges of the future—"aye"; Roll No. 378—H. Res. 1407—supporting the goals and ideals of High-Performance Building Week—"aye."

RECOGNITION OF CONNOR ELLISON

HON. DANIEL E. LUNGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Connor Ellison.

This past Saturday, June 19, 2010, Connor's Hope-Team Donate Life successfully completed a 3,005 mile-long bike ride across the United States in 6 days, 20 hours, and 39 minutes in the Race Across America. The team started their journey in Oceanside, California and completed the crossing in Annapolis, Maryland. Team Donate Life is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting organ donation and transplantation.

Connor Ellison, a 12-year-old Folsom, California resident, became the youngest rider to ever compete and finish the Race Across America—the world's toughest bicycle race. Connor is an inspiration to all of us, as he accomplished this great feat while battling a serious liver disease called Congenital Hepatic Fibrosis.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the achievements of Connor Ellison and Connor's Hope-Team Donate Life.

IN HONOR OF REPRESENTATIVE PAMELA THORNBURG

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize today the career and accomplishments of The Honorable State Representative Pamela Thornburg. As a member of Delaware's General Assembly for 10 years, Representative Thornburg has given much to her community and state while faithfully serving her constituents of the 29th District. Representative Thornburg is retiring after an admirable career in the General Assembly, and her presence in the State House will be greatly missed.

First elected to the State Legislature in 2000, Pam has successfully sponsored a number of high-profile laws and initiatives. A cornerstone of her legislative career was a 2007 law to reduce the number of false alarms from automated alarm systems. This visionary legislation sought to streamline emergency response by cutting down on the 99-percent false alarm rate which diverted and distracted essential emergency personnel.

As a State Representative for the 29th District and a member of the House's Agriculture Committee, Pam has worked tirelessly to defend Delaware's environmental interests. She is an agricultural advocate and a champion of preservation; she has ensured that countless acres of forestland have been protected, and, as further testament to her commitment, she also assisted in a separate initiative that secured permanent funding to preserve Delaware farmland from development.

Over her career, Pam has resolutely served the constituents of the 29th District, fighting for

their interests while ensuring their voices were heard in the State House. Pam has had an excellent career in public service, and I wish her the best of luck in her new position as Executive Director of the Delaware Farm Bureau.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2010

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of House Resolution 1369, which recognizes the significance of National Caribbean-American Heritage Month. Since June of 2006, the White House has issued an annual proclamation recognizing June as the national Caribbean-American Heritage Month. Caribbean's have made important contributions in all facets of American life from the arts to athletics, science and service.

Actors Sidney Poitier and Harry Belafonte and Journalist Malcolm Gladwell are Caribbean-Americans who have achieved greatness in their careers as well as in their communities as humanitarians and activists.

Mr. Poitier, Mr. Belafonte, and Mr. Gladwell have not only paved the way for their fellow Caribbean-Americans, but also for many other Americans who aspire to be musicians, journalists, actors and agents of change. For the past 50 years, Poitier has been an example to all Americans because of the work he did to help break down barriers in film and cinema. Poitier was recently awarded the 2009 Presidential Medal of Freedom because of his post-Hollywood activities. Belafonte has earned the title "King of Calypso" for popularizing Caribbean style music. Belafonte was also recently awarded the Hubert H. Humphrey Civil and Human Rights Award for his lifelong efforts for equality and justice. Malcolm Gladwell is a best-selling author who TIME magazine recognized in 2005 as one of the 100 most influential people in the world. His works have shown us the importance of looking at life with a critical eye and finding the small factors that have large consequences in our lives.

Because of their fame, Mr. Poitier, Mr. Belafonte and Mr. Gladwell have been properly recognized on multiple occasions; but it is imperative that we recognize the Caribbean-American Community as a whole because the diversity and talent they bring to the United States enriches and strengthens our country.

HONORING EDNA V. BAEHRE, PH.D., COLLEGE PRESIDENT OF HACC, CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA'S COMMUNITY COLLEGE

HON. TIM HOLDEN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. HOLDEN. Madam Speaker, I wish to honor Dr. Edna Victoria Baehre for service as College President for HACC, Central Pennsylvania's Community College. Dr. Baehre has been the longest serving President of HACC, having held the position for 13 years.

Dr. Baehre is a 1971 graduate of Paedagogische Hochschule in Heidelberg, Germany and holds M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the State University of New York at Buffalo. Her dedication to education has been displayed throughout her life, having held executive positions at community colleges in Illinois and New York before accepting the position of President of HACC in 1997.

During her time at HACC, Dr. Baehre has led the institution through four successive strategic plans, and has laid the groundwork for a fifth. Her vision and leadership have aided the college in meeting the ever-changing and increasing demands for a trained and educated workforce within South-Central Pennsylvania. Dr. Baehre's contribution to the college is also displayed in the undergraduate student enrollment increase from 10,250 in 1997 to nearly 25,000 today. Additionally, 50,000 citizens are currently enrolled in non-credit programs, workforce training, and public safety training.

I congratulate Dr. Baehre on her achievements as President of HACC and for her contribution in aiding the college to expand both in numbers and in status. Her dedication and leadership are to be admired and celebrated, and I wish her the best of luck as she takes her new post as President of Napa Valley Community College.

HONORING ABIGAIL FRONICK AND NATASHA SANFORD

HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor and acknowledge Abigail Fronick and Natasha Sanford, two young people from the Third Congressional District who are truly a credit to both the State of Missouri and the nation as a whole.

Abigail and Natasha have been selected to receive the Congressional Award for their outstanding efforts in community service and personal development. Each devoted over four hundred hours of voluntary public service to St. Louis Irish Arts, where they taught and performed traditional Irish dance for the benefit of people of all ages.

As is required for the Congressional Award, each of these young women also completed an expedition of personal discovery, traveling to Ireland to become immersed in a different culture and study Irish music.

Natasha and Abigail have both demonstrated a passion for self-discovery through the examination of traditional Irish culture, and extended that passion to the education and betterment of others within their community.

Young people such as these show a promising future for the United States, and I am proud and honored to have such individuals in the Third Congressional District of the great state of Missouri. I find it fitting that we should recognize their achievements here today, and I look forward to how they will continue to apply themselves in the future.

CONGRATULATING CHELSEY HOFFER AND ANGEL MILLENDER, WINNERS OF THE 2010 CONGRESSIONAL AWARD GOLD MEDAL

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate two of my constituents, Chelsey Marie Hofer and Angel Millender, the recipients of the 2010 Congressional Award Gold Medal, the United States Congress' only award for American youth. Earning this award requires at least 400 hours of community service, including 200 hours of both personal development and physical fitness activities, and a four-night expedition or exploration. Since 1979, the Congressional Award has inspired our Nation's youth to set and achieve personally challenging goals that build character and foster community service, personal development, and citizenship.

I have done a lot during my lifetime, yet I was amazed to see how much these two have accomplished at such a young age. Having volunteered at organizations like the American Red Cross, Girl Scouts of the USA, and People to People International, Ms. Chelsie Marie Hofer has shown great humility and perseverance. As Ms. Hofer said: "I learned that by setting goals and working hard, I can achieve anything." Mr. Angel Millender is passionate and determined. He took the initiative to be of service at his local hospital's Intensive Care Unit to assist individuals dealing with traumatic experiences. Mr. Millender also surrounded himself with positive young men by joining the "Men of Tomorrow" youth group. Both award winners traveled internationally for their "Expedition Experience"—Ms. Hofer to Japan and Mr. Millender to Panama, where they embraced the local culture and history.

Madam Speaker, Martin Luther King, Jr., said: "Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'" The recipients of the Gold Medal are shining examples of a sense of civic duty at an early age. I congratulate both Ms. Chelsey Hofer and Mr. Angel Millender of West Palm Beach, Florida, on this incredible achievement. I am inspired by their energy, passion and commitment to service their community.

Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize the 23rd Congressional District of Florida's recipients of the 2010 Congressional Award Gold Medal for all they have done to serve the Palm Beach County community and I wish them much success in their future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Speaker, yesterday, I missed 3 votes. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows.

Rollcall No. 376, on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to H. Con. Res. 288, I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall No. 377, on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to H. Res. 546, I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall No. 378, on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to H. Res. 1407, I would have voted "yea."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, on June 17, 2010, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to record my vote for Rollcall No. 372. Had I been present I would have voted: Rollcall No. 372: "yes"—Cao of Louisiana Amendment.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2010

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Caribbean-American Heritage Month and the contributions of Caribbean-Americans to this Nation. Since 2006, the United States has celebrated the rich and diverse history of Caribbean-American peoples and the many successes of Caribbean-Americans during the month of June.

Parallels have often been drawn between the history of the United States and that of Caribbean nations. Like America, Caribbean nations saw the need to resist tyrannical European leadership and create new democracies.

The first Caribbean immigrants came to America in 1619 as indentured servants in Jamestown, and since then have played an increasingly large role in American society and in the lives of Americans. Since 1820, millions of people have immigrated to the United States from the Caribbean region, and now Americans of Caribbean descent reside in all fifty states of the Union.

Since our Nation's inception, Caribbean-Americans have played important roles in every aspect of American life. Alexander Hamilton, a founding father and the first Secretary of the Treasury, was a Caribbean immigrant. Other notable Caribbean-Americans include Colin Powell, a former four-star general and Secretary of State, Shirley Chisholm, the first black candidate for president and the first woman to run for the Democratic nomination, Eric Holder, the current Attorney General, Sydney Poitier, the first African-American to win the Academy Award for best actor, and Stokely Carmichael, a black power activist.

Throughout the years, Caribbean-American culture has become engrained in American society, but has managed to remain distinct and unique. Caribbean-American music, language, literature, film, food, festivals, and culture are enjoyed by all Americans.

Without a doubt, the influence of Caribbean-Americans on American culture has been great.

I respect and admire all that Caribbean-Americans have done for the United States in the past and in the present, and I look forward

to the continued flourishing of Caribbean-American culture.

IN HONOR OF JEFFREY POTTER

HON. THADDEUS G. MCCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. MCCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the extraordinary life of Jeffrey Potter and to mourn him upon his passing at the age of 58.

Born on June 15, 1952, Jeff Potter dedicated his life to serving his community and his country. A graduate of Eastern Michigan University, Jeff retired from Ford Motor Company after 30 years of employment. Jeff loved his community and his community loved him.

Jeff was elected to the South Lyon City Council in November 1987 serving until November 1989 when he was elected mayor of South Lyon, serving 13 years until being elected to serve on the Oakland County Board of Commissioners. During his tenure on the Oakland County Commission, Mr. Potter chaired the public services committee and served on the general government and finance committees. He hoped to continue to represent the constituents of Oakland County's 8th district by retaining his seat this fall. Jeff also served as a Member/Delegate to SEMCOG and was a member of the Oakland County Library Board.

Jeffrey Potter was an active proponent of community partnerships, hoping to reduce the cost of government while adding to Oakland County's quality of life. He was an organizer and founding community sponsor of the Huron Valley Trail System, which connects many Oakland communities and area parks. Jeff Potter authored a Strategic Land Acquisition project in an effort to preserve land for "green space" and future parks. As then-Mayor Potter, Jeff was honored with the Distinguished Leadership in Joint Public Services Award, 1998, and Outstanding Project Award, 1998, for southeastern Michigan.

Regrettably, on June 21, 2010, Jeffrey Potter passed from this earthly world to his eternal reward. He is survived by his beloved wife, Andra, his sons, Michael and Daniel and his daughter, Jessica. A courageous and honorable man, Jeff will be sorely missed.

Madam Speaker, Jeff will be long remembered as a compassionate father, a dedicated husband, a leader, and a friend. Jeff was a man who deeply treasured his family, friends, community and his country. Today, as we bid Jeff farewell, I ask my colleagues to join me in mourning his passing and honoring his unwavering patriotism and legendary service to our country and our community.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WELLINGTON-NAPOLEON BOYS TRACK AND FIELD TEAM

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to inform the House that on Saturday,

May 22, 2010, the Wellington-Napoleon High School Tigers boys track and field team became the 2010 Missouri Class 1 High School State Champions.

The Tigers competed in a field of more than 120 teams throughout the state of Missouri. The hard work and dedication that these young men displayed throughout the season was rewarded with their high school's first track and field championship in 19 years. This is a truly remarkable achievement, and I am so very proud of these young men and their selfless coaches.

Members of the team include: Ethan Arndt, Nathan Arndt, Cody Banner, Blaine Beissenherz, Christian Bryant, Taylor Bryant, Johnny Good, Brandon Niendick, Dylan Register, Blake Seitz, Dustin Seitz, Michael Strickler, Brian Wallman, Cody Willard, and Michael Woodall. The team was coached by Quenton Bainbridge, Michelle McKown, and Tristan Layman.

Madam Speaker, the members of the Wellington-Napoleon High School Tigers track and field team have distinguished themselves as the 2010 Missouri Class 1 High School Track and Field State Champions. I am sure that my colleagues will join me in wishing Coaches Bainbridge, McKown, and Layman and this remarkable team all the best.

IN HONOR OF CHIEF CLERK JOANN HEDRICK

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I take the opportunity today to recognize the career and accomplishments of the retiring Chief Clerk of the Delaware House of Representatives, JoAnn Hedrick. Ms. Hedrick has provided three decades of invaluable service to Delaware's General Assembly and her presence will be greatly missed.

JoAnn has served my home state of Delaware with dedication and grace. Since starting in the House Republican Caucus in 1979, she has shown the utmost devotion to the General Assembly. JoAnn has held the position of Chief Clerk for more than 25 years and has always put the needs of the Legislature first. She is known for going above and beyond the call of duty, willing to work late hours and lend a hand when necessary.

In 2005, in recognition of her commitment to and outstanding efforts in the General Assembly, JoAnn was honored with the National Conference of State Legislatures' prestigious Legislative Staff Achievement Award. She has held positions in various professional organizations including a leadership role in the American Society of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries.

It was my great pleasure to have been able to work with JoAnn during my eight years as Governor and I am honored to be able to recognize her today. JoAnn will be remembered for her loyalty and dedication to her profession over the years, which has brought inspiration to the staff and the members of Delaware's Legislature. Her service to the state of Delaware is commendable, and I wish her a safe and happy retirement.

DONNA JEVEN'S TRIBUTE

HON. TOM MCCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join Congressman Gallegly in mourning the loss of Donna Jevens, a dedicated and devoted servant of our state of California and of our nation.

I had the honor to work with Donna for a decade while I served in the California State Assembly. As my field representative, she attended to the needs of every constituent who sought our assistance and threw her heart and soul into the personal crises that they brought her. In a business where the standard advice is not to get emotionally involved, she cared deeply about everyone she dealt with and it showed.

In the highly pressurized atmosphere of a district office, she was always the positive, sunny and cheerful personality that kept everyone else in the office motivated and upbeat.

My heart goes out to her family. They do not mourn alone—the loss of Donna is keenly felt by all of us who knew her, who worked with her, or who number among the countless legion whom she helped during more than two decades of selfless public service.

HONORING THE SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF UNITED STATES ARMY SPECIALIST CHRISTIAN M. ADAMS

HON. GABRIELLE GIFFORDS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Ms. GIFFORDS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor U.S. Army SPC Christian M. Adams, who passed away on June 11, 2010.

Christian was born at Fort Bragg in North Carolina, and spent his childhood growing up in Sierra Vista, Arizona where he attended Carmichael and Bella Vista elementary schools, then Sierra Vista Middle School before graduating from Buena High School in 2003. Well known in the community, Christian enlisted in the Army soon after high school.

Assigned to the 20th Engineer Battalion, 36th Engineer Brigade at Fort Hood, Texas, Christian was a tracked vehicle mechanic on his second combat deployment when he passed away on June 11, 2010 in Kandahar, Afghanistan.

We remember Christian and offer our deepest condolences and sincerest prayers to his family. My words cannot effectively convey the feeling of great loss nor can they offer adequate consolation. However, it is my hope that in future days, his family may take some comfort in knowing that Christian made a difference in the lives of many others and serves as an example of a competent and caring leader and friend that will live on in the hearts and minds of all those he touched.

SPC Christian Adams leaves behind his beloved wife Amanda, daughter Faith, mother Donna, stepfather John and father Anthony.

This body and this country owe Christian and his family our deepest gratitude, and we

will today and forevermore honor and remember him and his service to our country.

RECOGNITION OF STANLEY MARKS

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the lifetime achievements of Stanley Marks, an outstanding member of his community in Manalapan, New Jersey, and a devoted family man. He continues to epitomize the concept of responsible citizenship by giving back to society in many ways, making him worthy of this body's recognition. Mr. Marks' commendable achievements make him a deserving recipient of the 2010 Homeowners of Covered Bridge Person of the Year Award.

Stanley Marks was born in 1939 in Brooklyn, New York, where he spent his entire youth and much of his adult life. After graduating from the Boys High School, he joined the RCA Institute and studied electronics. In his professional life, Mr. Marks has worked for the Avion Corp. as well as a prominent Long Island City electronics distributor. In 1998, he moved to New Jersey and joined the Covered Bridge community in Manalapan. Mr. Marks has lived there ever since. A committed family man, he has been married for over 50 years to his wife, Jackie. They have two children and four grandchildren.

Mr. Marks has dedicated much of his life to serving each community of which he has been a part, both in New York and New Jersey. He has been committed to a variety of important causes through his support of various community organizations. Mr. Marks was a member of the Mill Basin, New York Civic Association and the chancellor commander of Harmony Lodge #709 of the Knights of Pythias Domain of New York. Currently, he is the vice chancellor of the Covered Bridge Lodge #536 of the Domain of New Jersey. Mr. Marks has also served as the president of the Covered Bridge Homeowners Association. He is presently a member of the association's board of directors. In his work with the Covered Bridge Homeowners Association, Mr. Marks has actively worked to improve the quality of life of his fellow residents. He has also been involved with Meals on Wheels and has helped organize transportation for the handicapped.

Madam Speaker, I would once more like to thank Mr. Stanley Marks for his contributions to the community and congratulate him again on his 2010 Person of the Year Award from the Homeowners of Covered Bridge. Mr. Marks' professional accomplishments, work for the betterment of society, and dedication to family should be an inspiration to us all.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DOMESTIC MINOR SEX TRAFFICKING DETERRENCE AND VICTIM SUPPORT ACT OF 2010

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, today I am pleased to introduce the Domestic Minor

Sex Trafficking Deterrence and Victim Support Act of 2010, bipartisan legislation that would take a multi-disciplinary, cooperative approach to shutting down human sex trafficking of children in the United States. I am pleased to be joined by original cosponsor Mr. CHRIS SMITH, who along with me co-chairs the Human Trafficking Caucus. Representatives BLUMENAUER, STEVEN COHEN, TED POE, LAURA RICHARDSON, and DAVID WU also join me as original cosponsors. The legislation is the House companion to S. 2925, introduced by Senators RON WYDEN and JOHN CORNYN in the Senate.

While many think that child sex trafficking is a problem only in foreign countries, experts estimate that over 100,000 children in the United States are currently exploited through commercial sex. Although it is hard to believe, the average age of first exploitation is 12–13. We can no longer ignore that children in our country are being so horrifically exploited for economic gain.

The legislation takes a comprehensive approach to reducing trafficking of minors. It would create block grants to provide shelter and care for the victims, ensure adequate resources for law enforcement and prosecutors to rescue victims and put pimps behind bars, strengthen deterrence and prevention programs aimed at buyers, and require timely and accurate reporting of missing children.

We have a moral obligation to help the neglected victims of sex trafficking and to crack down on their abusers.

IN HONOR OF THE RETIREMENT OF DAVID C. SAVIANO OF BILLERICA, MASSACHUSETTS AND PIPEFITTERS LOCAL 537

HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of David C. Saviano, born December 21, 1950, to Anthony and Bernadina Saviano, in South Medford, Massachusetts.

Dave's family moved to Billerica when he was 13 years old. He graduated from Billerica Memorial High School in 1970, where his athletic abilities as a wrestler, baseball player, and football captain earned him Athlete of the Year honors his senior year.

Dave's father, Tony, a retired member of Pipefitters Local 537's refrigeration division, inspired Dave to follow in his footsteps. Dave became a pipefitter apprentice in September 1971 and was initiated into Pipefitters Local 537 in March 1975. After working his way through the ranks, Dave ran for, and was elected in 1989, to the executive board of Pipefitters Local 537. Three years later, he was elected vice president of Pipefitters Local 537 and re-elected to that position again in 1995. Dave's leadership and experience earned him a hiatus from serving his Local 537 brothers and sisters in an elected capacity, as Dave ran one of the largest co-generation power plant construction jobs in the country from 1999 to 2002 in Everett, Massachusetts. But he came back to Local 537 politics, was elected and re-elected as business agent in 2002 and 2004; and in 2007 was elected assistant business manager. During his career with Pipefitters Local 537 Dave also served as

an educational board trustee, attended United Association national conventions and New England Pipe Trade conventions.

Dave is also dedicated to his community and for many years, has served on the Democratic Town Committee, attended the Democratic State Convention and has been an elected town meeting member. Most recently Dave won a seat on the Town Planning Board.

Dave and his wife of more than 25 years, Rosemary, continue to live in Billerica. Their sons, David and Jeff, are now married, David to Gail and Jeff to Deb, and Dave and Rose are the proud new grandparents of David Philip Saviano, born to David and his wife, Gail, on May 21, 2010. An active member and leader of Pipefitters Local 537 for 39 years and a dedicated father and husband, Dave's commitment and hard work to his members and family earned him a new title at this stage in his life, retired grandfather.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct honor to take the Floor of the House today, to join with Dave's family, friends and contemporaries to recognize and thank him for a career dedicated to the men, women and families of Pipefitters Local 537. I urge my colleagues to join me in celebrating David C. Saviano's distinguished career and wish him a happy and full retirement.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF
DR. EDNA SAFFY

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of my dear, lifelong friend, Dr. Edna Saffy. We were students at the University of Florida in the 1970s and we worked together for 16 years at Florida Community College of Jacksonville. Everyone knew her as one of the great women leaders of our generation and she often led merely by example. For instance, she was one of the first women I know who did not take her husband's last name.

Dr. Saffy was a human rights activist, college professor and founder of NOW chapters in Jacksonville and Gainesville. Her public service to the Third District included mayoral appointments to the Duval County Hospital Authority, Jacksonville Human Rights Commission, advisory committee on LaVilla Cultural Heritage District and the Jacksonville Area Planning Board. She was active with numerous groups including Planned Parenthood, Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings Society, Hubbard House, Karpeles Manuscript Museum and the American Association of University Women.

Dr. Saffy's influence spread far beyond Jacksonville, however. She was appointed by President Clinton to the Advisory Committee on the Arts of the John F. Kennedy Center for Performing Arts from 1995–2001, and by President Gerald Ford in 1976 as a delegate to the International Women's Conference. Active in Mideast peace groups and a member of the American Arab Institute, President Clinton invited her to witness the signing of the Mideast Peace Accord in 1993.

Finally, she worked hard for the Democratic Party. Dr. Saffy was a member of the Duval

County Democratic Executive Committee for 35 years, was a Florida State delegate to all the Democratic National Conventions from 2000 and served as president of the Florida Women's Political Caucus.

Like the Apostle Paul, she fought the good fight, she finished the course, and she kept the faith. Now, it is up to us to carry on her work.

My thoughts and prayers are with her husband of 41 years, Grady E. Johnson Jr.. God has blessed us by allowing us to have Dr. Saffy in our lives.

TRIBUTE TO CHAMPLAIN VALLEY
PHYSICIANS HOSPITAL

HON. WILLIAM L. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. OWENS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Champlain Valley Physicians Hospital of Plattsburgh, New York in the wake of the 100th anniversary of the admission of the facility's first patient on June 22, 1910.

CVPH was created in 1972 by the merger of Physicians Hospital with Champlain Valley Hospital. This association of private and charitable hospitals increased the level of access to quality health care for our community, and the CVPH Medical Center has remained the foundation of Plattsburgh's health for decades.

CVPH, through its board, management and employees, has proved their dedication to our community's health by instituting ambitious programs to expand their services. In their relentless mission to provide our region with education, awareness, and strength—in addition to the gold standard of health care for which they are known—the Champlain Valley Physicians Hospital is a vital part of our community that cannot be replaced.

CVPH has always endeavored to find new ways to increase and expand the level of care it offers. From advanced cardiology services and mental health care to its community outreach efforts, our facility knows that the best approach to the overall health of an area involves every part of every individual.

Madam Speaker, I would like to offer my sincere congratulations to the Champlain Valley Physicians Hospital on their 100th anniversary, as well as my undying appreciation for the consistent level of service they provide our region.

A SALUTE TO DR. JAMES F.
"JEFF" KIMPEL

HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding Oklahoman devoted to being the best public servant ever for the people of the United States, working tirelessly to help save lives and protect property, Dr. James "Jeff" Kimpel, director NOAA National Severe Storms Laboratory in Norman, Oklahoma. He is a close friend who will be retiring in Norman, Oklahoma this week. After 13

years of federal service Dr. Kimpel served the Nation and the people of our State and city and is recognized internationally as one of the world's leading experts on weather and meteorology, having served as the past president of the American Meteorological Society in 2000. Jeff Kimpel will be sorely missed in NOAA and I know that I will miss his active participation day by day in all matters relating to meteorology.

Madam Speaker, Jeff Kimpel's impact in Norman, Oklahoma which is in the fourth Congressional District has been ongoing and direct on all matters relating to severe weather and weather related research and development. We have been considerably blessed with the location of the National Severe Storms Laboratory in Norman as well as the University of Oklahoma, and The Weather Center including many major weather private sector companies who advance the future of weather research in the United States. Dr. Kimpel has made a mark on weather forecasting that will be felt for decades to come.

Dr. Kimpel has been one of the main proponents of improving the connection of Doppler-radar systems, or NEXRAD, which would advance and improve radar resolution and increase the accuracy of rain, snow and other weather predictions. This program, which was created under Dr. Kimpel, has also generated forecast models and has largely improved the ability to predict tornados, windstorms, lighting, and other types of severe precipitation. These programs are extremely vital and important to Oklahoma in particular, but Dr. Kimpel has brought them into other regions that also deal with inclement weather and specific weather storms.

Madam Speaker, currently the upgrade of the current NEXRAD system for advanced notice of severe weather and tornados embodied in the Multi-purpose Phased Array Radar will ultimately improve the effectiveness and will also cut costs. Dr. Kimpel's tireless and diligent efforts to develop the Multi-purpose Phased-Array Radar technology have paid off and are being rewarded with amplified financial support for the upcoming 2011 Fiscal Year. Dr. Kimpel's successor will surely continue to work hard on this project and continue to work to create even more developments for this form of radar technology.

Madam Speaker, throughout his career, Dr. Kimpel has held important positions in several different organizations in the field of weather including a member of the National Research Council's Board on Natural Disasters of the National Academy of Sciences, an active official of the National Science Foundation including past chair of the Advisory Committee for Atmospheric Sciences, the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research, the American Meteorological Society, and NOAA's U.S. Weather Research Program development team.

Dr. Kimpel's dedication goes above and beyond the field of meteorology and weather. He has epitomized and displayed leadership qualities that are very often hard to come by. He has been awarded the Bronze Star Medal while serving under the United States Air Force in Vietnam, has received the University of Oklahoma Student Association Faculty Award for Outstanding Teaching and Service to Students, and among many other awards and honors has been given the Oklahoma University Regents' Award for Superior University and Professional Service.

Madam Speaker, I applaud and congratulate Dr. Kimpel on the many accomplishments that he has achieved throughout his lifetime and I thank him for his life's commitment to weather, science, and severe-storm prediction. Additionally, I would like to thank Dr. Kimpel for the example he has set for future meteorologists and researchers to follow, and for the fine career in which he has dedicated his life's work to. Madam Speaker, I am genuinely pleased to be able to say that I represent Dr. Kimpel and his family, and the laboratory that he created and worked so diligently for. I wish him luck in his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO SPECIALIST JOSEPH JOHNSON

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to pay tribute to Army SPC Joseph Dennis Johnson. Specialist Johnson was killed on June 16, 2010 in Kunduz, Afghanistan by a roadside bomb. Funeral services will be held on June 26 at Flint Central Nazarene Church.

After graduating from Carmen-Ainsworth High School in 2004, Specialist Johnson enlisted in the U.S. Army in 2006 and served as an Airborne Engineer disarming improvised devices. He had been stationed in Afghanistan since December 2009. Specialist Johnson considered it a privilege and honor to serve his country. I had the opportunity to meet and talk to Specialist Johnson when we flew from Washington, DC to Michigan together several years ago. I was attending the funeral of a friend, Jack Maxwell, and Jack was Specialist Johnson's great-grandfather. As I sat next to him on the airplane and again at the funeral, I was impressed by his deep love for our country, his passion for his work and his devotion to his family.

Specialist Johnson will be deeply missed by his parents, Dennis and Teri Johnson, his sister Jennifer Pollak, grandparents Eugene and Lois Johnson and Glenna Maxwell; his special friend Amanda Gauthier, many nieces, nephews and close friends.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to stand and take a moment of silence to remember SPC Joseph Johnson. He has made the ultimate sacrifice for the country he loved deeply and our nation is grateful for his steadfast duty. His enthusiasm for life is an inspiration to all that knew him and his integrity is a credit to his parents and family. I extend my condolences to his parents, family and friends and I mourn his passing.

CONGRATULATING GASTONIA, NORTH CAROLINA

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mrs. MYRICK. Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate Gastonia, NC—one of the recipients of the 2010 All-America City Award from the National Civic League. Gastonia, for

the third time, has achieved this honor, which highlights the innovation, inclusiveness, civic engagement, and cross sector collaboration of this unique town.

This year, representatives to the competition highlighted two of Gastonia's most important civic programs. The first is The Shelter of Gaston County, a transitional home for battered women. The second is "Run for the Money," an annual fundraiser that has raised more than \$9 million for non-profits in our area.

It was clear that Gastonia made quite an impression—they were one of only two in the entire competition to receive unanimous support from this year's judges.

Not only was Gastonia recognized with this honor, but Gastonia team member Luis Rios, president of the Mayor's Youth Leadership Council, won the inaugural All-America City Teen of the Year Award.

In addition to the hard work of the people of Gastonia, I would also like to extend special congratulations to Mayor Jennie Stultz. A native of Gastonia, Mayor Stultz provides the leadership necessary for the City of Gastonia and its citizens to live up to their fullest potential—with great gusto.

It is truly a privilege to represent Gastonia in Congress. Gastonia is well-deserving of being named an All-America City, and I commend the city for the commitment it shows to its citizens and the dedication it has to the traditions and values that make Gastonia so special.

RECOGNIZING RICHARD HUNSUCKER AND THE WALK ACROSS AMERICA TEAM

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Richard "Ric" Hunsucker, a United States Marine Corps veteran, and the Walk Across America Team for their selfless efforts to bring awareness to disabled veterans across the country.

Mr. Hunsucker, an ironworker from Green Bay, Wisconsin, has completed a challenging yet worthy undertaking that has achieved great success—all in the name of disabled veterans. On Veterans Day, November 11, 2009, Mr. Hunsucker set out to begin his 202 day walk across America to raise donations and awareness for the struggles faced by disabled veterans.

Starting at the Duval County War Memorial in Jacksonville, Florida, Mr. Hunsucker and his support teammate, Jack Dixon, visited countless veterans medical centers and outpatient clinics to meet with disabled veterans, doctors, nurses, family members and the public.

This 2,600-mile journey took them through four time zones and eight states, ending proudly at the Balboa Park War Memorial in San Diego, California on Memorial Day, May 31, 2010. He carried a 5-foot by 3-foot navy blue Disabled American Veterans flag the entire route. All donations raised went to the Disabled American Veterans organization, a non-profit that advocates and assists those injured while serving their country.

Mr. Hunsucker trained for six months for his 202-day walk and has since gone through

three pairs of sneakers and countless aches and pains. Walking an average of 17 miles a day, meeting the families of those killed in action in Iraq and Afghanistan were among the most memorable moments.

Mr. Hunsucker's patriotism and desire to raise awareness for veterans was best explained when he recently stated, "You can build a memorial for those who have been killed, but how can you remember those who are disabled? You take care of them."

Madam Speaker, I would like to extend my personal accolades to the Walk Across America Team for such a remarkable and dedicated journey.

TRIBUTE TO STEVE ZATKIN

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, my colleague HENRY WAXMAN and I join together to mark an important occasion for California's and the nation's health care policy community. After leading the public policy and government relations team at Kaiser Permanente for the past 20 years, Steve Zatzkin has announced that he will retire at the end of this month. He reached this conclusion after having seen a long-awaited event—the enactment of comprehensive health care reform—finally come to pass.

Following his graduation from the University of California at Berkeley in 1969, Steve began his career in health policy, like many other national experts, as a staff person in the California legislature. After starting out as an Intern and Analyst in the California Assembly, Steve served throughout the middle and late 1970s as Senior Consultant to the Assembly Health Subcommittee on Health Personnel, the Joint Committee on Health Sciences Education and the Joint Committee on the Siting of Teaching Hospitals. During his senior staff tenure in Sacramento, he developed major legislation and budget policy on health care workforce and training issues, an area of abiding and continuing interest for him.

While working in the legislature, Steve earned his degree at the McGeorge School of Law and was admitted to the California Bar. In 1978, he joined Kaiser Permanente as a staff counsel focusing on government relations. In addition to leading Kaiser Permanente's government relations function since 1990, he has chaired its Health Policy Committee since its inception in 1996. Since 2004, he has also served as Senior Vice President and General Counsel of Kaiser Foundation Health Plan and Kaiser Foundation Hospitals.

Steve has long been recognized as a leader in the health plan and integrated care delivery sector. He served on the Boards of Directors of the Alliance of Community Health Plans, the California Association of Health Plans and the American Association of Health Plans. In the late 1990s, Steve served on the California Governor's Managed Care Improvement Task Force. He has also served as a member of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners' Health Care Insurance Access Advisory Committee.

In his role as a health plan leader, Steve has ably represented Kaiser Permanente as it has grown to serve over 8.6 million people, including over 6 million individuals in our home

state of California. Throughout his time as a senior leader at Kaiser Permanente, Steve has been a strong and consistent public voice within the industry for comprehensive health reform. An article he co-authored in the journal *Health Affairs* in 2006 with Kaiser Permanente leaders George Halvorson and Dr. Jay Crosson served as a model for the exciting, if ultimately unsuccessful effort to enact health reform in California during the legislative session in 2008. The efforts in California demonstrated the potential to bring together health care providers, health plans, businesses, labor unions and consumers in support of comprehensive health reform legislation that could improve both the functioning of health markets and the quality of care, and at the same time help subsidize coverage for those who cannot afford it. The progress made in California, along with the success of reform in Massachusetts and strong efforts in other states, no doubt contributed important momentum necessary to achieve health care reform in this Congress.

As the critical effort to implement national health reform moves forward, we will need industry leaders like Steve to help their organizations and policymakers focus on the tasks at hand—to continuously improve quality and to successfully extend affordable coverage to the millions who currently don't have access to it.

Madam Speaker, we would like to offer the heartfelt thanks of the health policy community for Steve Zarkin's key leadership over many years, and our warmest congratulations on his well-deserved retirement.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF LAREDO COCA-COLA BOTTLING COMPANY

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Laredo Coca-Cola Bottling Company's 100th year in operation. The Coca-Cola Bottling Company has provided Coca-Cola bottled products to the Rio Grande Valley of South Texas and the Laredo community for 100 years. This bottling company has accomplished a century of service to our community throughout the years.

In 1899, Joseph B. Whitehead and Benjamin F. Thomas convinced The Coca-Cola Company that Coke should be sold in bottles, not just as a fountain drink. A few years later, in 1910, the Laredo Coca-Cola Bottling Company was established by Samuel N. "Silas" Johnson with an initial purchase of 51 gallons of syrup from The Coca-Cola Company in Atlanta, Georgia. The first address for the company was 2202 Montezuma Street. In the early years, bottling equipment was hand and foot-operated, and one hard-working employee could bottle 200 cases in 10 hours of work.

In 1930, Samuel N. Johnson Jr. assumed ownership of the family bottling company and beer distributorship following the death of his father. Following the civic lead of his father, Samuel N. Johnson Jr. believed in the city of Laredo's potential to grow and prosper through innovation and team work.

Samuel N. Johnson Jr. ran the Laredo Coca-Cola Bottling Company until his death in

1962. Under the terms of his will, the Company was held in a trust for two years and subsequently purchased by siblings Betsy Johnson Gill and Samuel N. Johnson, III, in 1964. Lamar Gill, Betsy Johnson Gill's husband, who was from a Coca-Bottling family in Beeville, Texas, took charge of the Company as president and manager; Betsy Johnson Gill served as vice-president; and Sam Johnson III served as president and sole owner of the S.N. Johnson Distributor and secretary-treasurer of the Laredo Coca-Cola Bottling Company.

In 1973, plans were made to relocate the plant to North Laredo, moving the production end of the company in 1974 and the office in 1975 to the Del Mar Industrial Park—where the company still resides at 1402 Industrial Boulevard. On December 15, 1992, the company was sold to Coca-Cola Enterprises, and Tino Villarreal was appointed general manager, a position he still holds today.

Laredo Coca-Cola Bottling Company has a long history of giving back to the community by supporting a variety of organizations and events throughout the area. The Laredo Coca-Cola Bottling Company currently has 98 employees and delivers beverages to more than 2,700 customers in four counties, covering 5,206 square miles. Many of the details of how the bottling business is run have changed greatly over the last century. From one package and one brand to more than 200 brands and 500 packages, the company now offers a portfolio of products that promotes total hydration and an active lifestyle.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to have the time to recognize the 100th anniversary of the Laredo Coca-Cola Bottling Company. The Laredo Coca-Cola Bottling Company is celebrating 100 years of service for our community and continuing its mission for South Texas.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. GOODLATTE. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 376 on H. Con. Res. 288, rollcall No. 377 on H. Res. 546, and rollcall No. 378 on H. Res. 1407, I am not recorded because I was attending the funeral service of a fallen soldier in my district, Army SPC Brian M. Anderson, who was killed in action while serving his country in Afghanistan. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on all three resolutions.

ROBERT A. TAFT MIDDLE SCHOOL NAMED SCHOOL TO WATCH

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Madam Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to pay tribute to the outstanding achievements of Robert A. Taft Middle School, located in Indiana's First Congressional District. After undergoing a very selective application and interview process, Robert A. Taft Middle School received the distinct

honor of being named one of the "Schools to Watch" by the National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform. For accomplishing an extraordinary feat and exerting remarkable efforts, Robert A. Taft Middle School will receive recognition at a gala dinner during the Schools to Watch Annual Conference. This prestigious event will take place in Washington, D.C. on Thursday, June 24, 2010.

The "Schools to Watch" program honors middle schools that exemplify exceptional performance in education. This rigorous program was developed in 1999 by the National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform. To date, there are eighteen States that participate in this national initiative. Candidates for the "Schools to Watch" program must demonstrate four main criteria: academic excellence, developmental responsiveness, social equity, and organizational structure. The middle schools that are chosen for the "Schools to Watch" program exceed these standards.

Robert A. Taft Middle School provides education to 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students in the Crown Point, Cedar Lake, and Winfield communities in Indiana. In recent years, Robert A. Taft Middle School implemented a program involving innovative educational techniques which made significant contributions to the school's success. Important factors of the new program include interdisciplinary teams that allow staff to create personalized environments, flexible schedules to ensure comprehension, and team planning and preparation periods that provide students with high-quality teachers and learning opportunities. Additionally, the implementation of the "Creating a Safe School" anti-bullying effort made Robert A. Taft Middle School an even stronger candidate for this prestigious honor.

Madam Speaker, I would like to once again extend my most heartfelt congratulations to Robert A. Taft Middle School faculty, staff, and students, as well as Principal Michael Hazen, on being named one of the "Schools to Watch" for 2010. The dedication exhibited by the school and the community serves to inspire us and to encourage other schools across the Nation. It is my honor to have been given this opportunity to recognize such a supreme middle school, and I am honored to have Robert A. Taft Middle School in my district.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JEFF FORTENBERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, June 22, 2010, I was absent and thus I missed rollcall votes Nos. 376–378. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on all three votes.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I was absent from the House Floor during yesterday's three rollcall votes.

Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of H. Con. Res. 288, H. Res. 546, and H. Res. 1407.

A TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL F.
ESCALANTE, ED.D.

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Michael Escalante, whose tenure as Superintendent of the Glendale Unified School District has contributed substantially to its increases in student achievement. This feat is especially commendable considering the significant fiscal challenges the district has been and is currently facing.

The Glendale Unified School District is an impressive school system in its own right, encompassing 27,000 students and 2,500 employees at 31 schools—twenty-three of which have been recognized as California Distinguished Schools, nine as National Blue Ribbon schools, and 11 as Title 1 Achieving Schools.

As its Superintendent, Dr. Escalante has guided GUSD towards many more distinctions and accomplishments. Under his leadership, the district has garnered many state and national awards for student achievement, helped establish and expand programs such as the Foreign Language Academies of Glendale, and created Focus on Results, a district-wide professional development plan.

Even more impressively, Dr. Escalante's accomplishments stretch back before his role as superintendent. Prior to joining GUSD, Dr. Escalante began his teaching career at the elementary and high school levels and served for seven years in this capacity. He subsequently rose through the ranks to enter other administrative assignments, including Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, administrative assistant, elementary principal, intermediate principal, and two separate tenures as a high school principal. Dr. Escalante's experience is extensive and he has worked in several school districts, including Hawthorne, Centinela Valley, Santa Monica, Malibu, Palos Verdes Peninsula, and Long Beach Unified. As evidenced by the GUSD's successes, his wide breadth and sheer depth of experience has clearly been invaluable to its development.

Dr. Michael Escalante has been a tremendous asset to the Glendale Unified School District and to the City of Glendale, and I ask all members to join me in thanking him for his dedicated service to education.

HONORING JOSE TAMAYO

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Jose Tamayo, who passed away on June 10, 2010, in Santa Rosa, California. His legacy as a philanthropist and entrepreneur has enriched Sonoma County and the entire San Francisco Bay Area.

As a young immigrant from Mexico, Mr. Tamayo moved to this country with a bright vision for his family's future. He quickly recognized Sonoma County as uniquely endowed with a rich agricultural, culinary, and environmental tradition that lent itself well to the production of wholesome, handcrafted foods. After settling in Santa Rosa, Mr. Tamayo and his wife Mary opened their first "Mexicantessen," bringing a taste of their heritage to Sonoma County customers.

The Tamayos built on their success, founding La Tortilla Factory in 1977 and branching out into new products and new ventures. From a tiny family business run entirely on Jose and Mary Tamayo's hard work and dedication, La Tortilla Factory grew into a nationally recognized leader with hundreds of local employees. It also continues to be an industry innovator. Over the several decades that La Tortilla Factory has been in operation, it has consistently been at the forefront of new, health-conscious, high-quality wraps, breads, and tortillas.

In spite of the demands of a growing business, Jose and Mary Tamayo remained committed to their family and community. They worked tirelessly to give their children the education and grounding they would need to succeed in their own right, and to create a family centered on the principles of hard work and service. In 1986, Jose and Mary Tamayo passed La Tortilla Factory on to their sons and rededicated themselves to contributing to the people of Sonoma County.

The Tamayos were particularly active in a number of community organizations, from food banks to local schools and youth-support organizations. The Mary and Jose Tamayo House, a residence for former foster children at Sonoma County's Social Advocates for Youth, is just one example of their efforts to provide all children the same opportunities they provided their own. This is a legacy of compassion and civic-mindedness that will live on in our region.

Jose Tamayo was predeceased by his wife Mary and his son Bernie Tamayo. He is survived by his sons Carlos, Jose, Mike, and Willie Tamayo, and by his eleven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join in me in celebrating the life of a man who gave back more than he received, who measured his success in his service to others. Jose Tamayo's story reminds us of how much we can all achieve when we pursue our goals with passion and integrity.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$13,046,652,647,591.81.

On January 6th, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$2,408,226,901,298.01 so far this Congress.

This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

GRADUATES OF CRISTO REY NEW YORK HIGH SCHOOL BEAT THE ODDS

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I am honored to commend the fifty graduates from Cristo Rey New York High School in East Harlem, who have beaten the odds to achieve this success. Every student in this class has been accepted to college in the fall.

Cristo Rey students dream big. Many aspire to become lawyers, forensic pathologists, journalists, psychologists and a wide variety of professions. The students will attend prestigious universities and colleges, in and out of New York, including Fordham University, Brooklyn College, John Jay College, New York University, Pace University, Georgetown University, Lehigh University, and Boston College.

The school is part of a network of twenty-four Cristo Rey schools throughout the country—Catholic, co-ed, college prep schools, where students of all faiths are welcomed.

Cristo Rey has played a special role in helping these students overcome obstacles they have faced in their young lives. Some have had financial difficulties, and others have faced the dangers and temptations of the streets.

In addition to academics, the students received hands-on experience in the workplace, even before being handed their diplomas. One day a week, they worked in some very high powered firms such as JPMorgan, Chase and Citigroup. The students performed office work and received guidance from mentors who helped them identify desired career paths.

Many of these firms pay sixty-percent of the school's expense.

Cristo Rey's motto is, "transforming Urban America, One Student at a Time". The transformation of these fifty students shows what hard work and dedication can achieve. Cristo Rey has laid the educational foundation for these students. The sky is the limit for them in what they can achieve, in their working careers.

Here are the names of the students whose achievements we celebrate: Lucio Reynoso, Steven Gonzalez, David Luna, Andrew Sanabria, Andy Paulino, Jonathan Balbuena, Aleksander Perpalaj, Daniel Estevez, Joel Frias, Bryan Santos, Charles Perez, Randy Nunez, Melany Rodriguez, Sade Gonzalez, Michelizabeth Sainvill, Nyesha Johnson, Tiffany Tejada, Steven Saverino, Amaury de Dios, Stanley Majors, Jr., Christian Guzman, Angel-Alvarez, Laury Veudna, Devany Baez, Celia Martinez, Lizbel Escamilla, Sheniqua Green, Katherine Santiago, Olivia McBride, Vitoria Velazquez, Marisol Almonte, Ashley Garcia, Asia Davis, Angelique Agudo, Stephanie Ortiz, Amanda Rodriguez, Lidibeth Iona, Ashley Saucedo, Genesis Cedeno, Vanessa Ruiz, Noelia Taveras, Raquel Salgado, Cailyn Asturias, Jessica Vargas, Patricia Diaz, Stephanie Medaivilla, Tamika Flores, Paola Peguero.

THE NATIONAL MONUMENT DESIGNATION TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2010 (H.R. 5580)

HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. NUNES. Madam Speaker, I rise today upon the introduction of the National Monument Designation Transparency and Accountability Act of 2010 which will ensure that any national monument designation is done on an informed basis and is accomplished through a transparent process fully involving Congress.

Pursuant to the "Property Clause", Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2, of the United States Constitution, Congress has the expressed power to "make needful Rules and Regulations respecting the Territory and other Property belonging to the United States." Through the Antiquities Act of 1906 and other acts, Congress has delegated considerable land management authority to the President. For example, the Antiquities Act, which was enacted in response to thefts from and the destruction of archeological sites, allows the President to proclaim national monuments on Federal lands that "contain historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic and scientific interest."

President Theodore Roosevelt first used the authority to create Devil's Tower in Wyoming. Today, there are 71 monuments covering approximately 136 million acres. While the Act has been used appropriately in some instances, it also has been abused.

For example, President Clinton, asserting that Congress had not acted quickly enough, used his authority 22 times to proclaim 19 new monuments and to expand three others; with one exception, the monuments were designated in his last year of office. They also totaled 5.9 million acres. Moreover, in the instance of the Giant Sequoia National Monument, they devastated the timber industry in Tulare County, California, and left an enduring legacy of double-digit unemployment and diminished communities.

As a life-long resident of Tulare County, I saw, and in fact still see, the devastation caused by that stroke of the President's pen. I well understand the anger and frustration that many of my constituents felt when, with no meaningful opportunity to provide input on this momentous decision, their lives and communities were changed forever.

Congress must not allow such abuses of the Antiquities Act to be repeated. Rather, if the Antiquities Act is going to remain law, it must be improved, particularly in the revelation that the current Administration might use the Act to designate monuments totaling as many as 13 million acres.

The National Monument Designation Transparency and Accountability Act of 2010 would provide the necessary improvements. It would also provide much-needed transparency to what is currently an opaque process.

It is important to point out that the bill preserve the right of the President to act quickly to protect national treasures that are under threat, but it ensures his or her actions are confirmed by Congress. Specifically, Congress would have two years to affirm the President's decision to protect the national treasure in per-

petuity. This will restore the balance between executive decisions and public input.

The bill would also require the President to provide notice and the actual language of the proposed designation to Congress, Governors, local governments, and tribes within the boundaries of the proposed monument. Additionally, it would require the Administration to provide notice of public hearings and allow opportunity for public comments. The President would then have to report to Congress on how the designation would impact local tax revenues, national energy security, land interests, rights, and uses.

These reforms would ensure the Antiquities Act is used appropriately and in accordance with its original intent. Any monument decisions would be made with all the pertinent information available, with full public participation, and Congressional approval rather than in the dark of the night and at the behest of radical environmentalists.

HONORING THE GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL, AND TRANSGENDERED ROUND TABLE OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered Round Table, GLBTRT, of the American Library Association, the first professional gay organization in the United States, which celebrates its 40th anniversary this year.

Throughout its 40 years, the GLBTRT has worked to ensure information and access needs for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered individuals. In this welcoming and inclusive forum, they have worked to improve the lives of librarians, archivists, other information specialists, and library users who are part of the GLBT community.

The GLBTRT acts on many different levels to advocate for their community. Through their work in revising classification schemes, subject heading lists, and indices, the GLBTRT removes derogatory and hurtful terms. They also strive to eliminate job discrimination based on sexual orientation. Additionally, they promote education awareness of all library patrons by ensuring unrestricted access to information by or about the GLBT community. They also support other minority groups advocating for better representation and equal opportunity in the Association.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the anniversary of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered Round Table and congratulating them on their successes and further efforts to reach equality in the library and information communities.

GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY, EFFECTIVENESS, AND PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. PETER WELCH

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 16, 2010

Mr. WELCH. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of a practical, common sense bill: The Efficiency, Effectiveness and Performance Improvement Act.

This legislation will cut government waste by forcing every Federal agency to create a rigorous performance evaluation plan—and live by it.

Under this legislation agency heads will conduct evaluations of every program within their purview and report on goals to increase performance objectives.

The OMB Director will report to Congress on agency goals and suggested methods to improve program performance.

By forcing our agencies to create and adhere to strategic planning we will increase government efficiency and effectiveness.

As our deficit continues to grow, we must constantly strive to find ways—small and large—to get rid of government waste and inefficiency.

This bill does just that. I thank my colleague from Texas for introducing it, and I encourage my colleagues to support it.

RECOGNIZING MASTER SERGEANT VANDIVER K. HOOD ON THE OCCASION OF RECEIVING A THIRD BRONZE STAR MEDAL

HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate MSgt Vandiver "Van" Hood of the 4th Civil Engineer Squadron, 4th Explosive Ordnance Disposal Flight at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base in Goldsboro, North Carolina, on receiving his third Bronze Star. Master Sergeant Hood's actions while serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom saved the lives of his fellow servicemen and provided invaluable intelligence toward ending the ongoing global war on terror.

Master Sergeant Van Hood was born in Winston Salem, North Carolina on November 19, 1973. He was an extremely active young man. He participated competitively in soccer and swimming, leading him to varsity letters all 4 years of high school. Master Sergeant Hood graduated from Page High School in Greensboro in 1992 and joined the United States Air Force less than 2 years later on April 26, 1994.

Master Sergeant Hood was first stationed at Cannon Air Force Base in New Mexico. While there, he excelled, and won the First Sergeants Association's Diamond Sharp Award, was named the Master Blaster of the Year, and in 1997, was selected as Cannon Air Force Base's Airman of the Year. Master Sergeant Hood served at Cannon Air Force Base for over 4 years before being assigned to Ramstein Air Base in Germany.

After arriving at Ramstein Air Base in June 1999, then-Sergeant Hood was promoted to staff sergeant. He conducted explosive ordnance disposal testing on large caliber munitions as part of the U.S. Air Forces in Europe's, USAFE's, Projectile Attack Trials, yielding beneficial data for U.S. military efforts. While at Ramstein Air Base, Master Sergeant Hood won the USAFE Major General Eugene A. Lupia Military Technician of the Year award. Further, the unit he led received three "excellent" ratings on nuclear surety inspections. Following his 4 years at Ramstein Air Base, Master Sergeant Hood was stationed to Fort Dix, New Jersey, to work at the Air Mobility Warfare Center.

After arriving at Fort Dix, Master Sergeant Hood completed degrees in Explosive Ordnance Disposal and in Technology and Military Science. The latter afforded Master Sergeant Hood the opportunity to teach new airmen and prepare them for the rigors of the military.

Twice deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, during his first tour, Master Sergeant Hood safely destroyed and recovered 164 improvised explosive devices, IEDs, unexploded ordnances, and weapons caches. Master Sergeant Hood led five separate missions where his team encountered enemy fire. On one such mission, he and his team were targeted with a rocket-propelled grenade, RPG. The RPG missed Master Sergeant Hood by less than 5 feet, but unfortunately struck a vehicle and injured a member of the Army's Quick Reaction Force. Master Sergeant Hood administered immediate medical care to the injured soldier and after support arrived, Master Sergeant Hood completed his initial mission. For this and other heroic efforts, Master Sergeant Hood received his first Bronze Star Medal.

Master Sergeant Hood was redeployed to Iraq as a Weapons Intelligence Team Leader in 2007. While there, he and his team successfully completed over 90 combat missions including 80 IED responses, recovery of several weapons caches, and serving in four named missions. One of those missions found Master Sergeant Hood and his team in danger of a radio-controlled IED. Through his quick thinking, Master Sergeant Hood immediately cleared the engagement zone from first responders and local citizens. He and his team were successful at rendering the IED safe, protecting local residents, first responders, and American warfighters. Master Sergeant Hood also designed a comprehensive curriculum on proper sensitive sight exploitation and conducted over 10 hours of training for the Iraqi Army Bomb Disposal Unit. His actions during his second deployment earned him his second Bronze Star Medal.

When Master Sergeant Hood returned to the United States, he received a promotion to the rank of Technical Sergeant. After nearly five years at Fort Dix, Master Sergeant Hood was stationed at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base in Goldsboro, North Carolina.

Master Sergeant Hood was at Seymour Johnson for less than a year when he deployed to Wardak Province, Afghanistan, to serve as leader for an Explosive Ordnance Disposal team. His third deployment to the region, Master Sergeant Hood again put himself in harm's way, saving the lives of his team and others. While on counter-IED operations, Master Sergeant Hood identified a hidden IED in rough terrain. Unable to remotely inspect

the IED, he approached the device in a bomb suit and successfully disabled the hazard. Master Sergeant Hood and his team were responsible for an area over 6,000 square miles. He was instrumental in safely resolving over 150 emergency response missions including 75 IED incidents as well as 16 weapons caches. For his outstanding and distinguished service, Master Sergeant Hood received his third Bronze Star Medal. When he returned from Afghanistan, then-Technical Sergeant Hood was promoted into the senior non-commissioned officer ranks as a master sergeant.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to share MSgt Vandiver Hood's story. He has bravely and selflessly served the United States for over 16 years. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Master Sergeant Hood for having received three Bronze Star Medals. I also ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Master Sergeant Hood for his meritorious service to the United States.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN A. YARMUTH

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. YARMUTH. Madam Speaker, I was unable to cast the recorded votes for Rollcall 355, 356, and 357. Had I been present I would have voted yes for these measures.

BILL: H. RES. 1368—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree, Rollcall No. 355—Vote "yes," H. RES. 1409—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree, Rollcall No. 356—Vote "yes," H.R. 5502—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, Rollcall No. 357—Vote "yes."

THE PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS PROTECTION AND GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

HON. JOHN SULLIVAN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce H.R. 5582, the Private Property Rights Protection and Government Accountability Act of 2010.

Previously, the U.S. Constitution specifically limited government taking of private property through a relatively narrow exception for "public use." Public use has historically referred to roads, schools, firehouses, etc. You may remember the infamous 2005 Supreme Court decision, *Kelo v. City of New London*, where the court broadened the government's ability to take your home, farm, business or place of worship. The negative effects of this far-reaching Supreme Court decision place millions of private property owners nationwide at risk.

Some states are trying to correct this injustice and have enacted restrictions on the use of eminent domain, in this case, when the government seizes private property, with varied effectiveness. However, Congress has not taken action to restore private property rights and the abusive use of eminent domain has continued.

That is why I am introducing the Private Property Rights Protection and Government

Accountability Act of 2010. This legislation will restrict certain federal economic development funds for 10 years to any state or locality in which eminent domain is used to take private property for a private purpose. It will also allow private property owners the legal recourse they deserve to fight baseless private property takings by state and local governments.

Examples of eminent domain abuse can be seen across Oklahoma, from Oklahoma City to Muskogee, and throughout this country.

No family, business operator or place of worship is safe if the government decides that their property does not measure up, and that "public purpose" would be better served if it were torn down and replaced by something bigger, glitzier and more taxable. I encourage all my colleagues to support this important legislation.

RECOGNIZING TINA WALTER

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Tina Walter, who has been selected as the Bedford Rotary Club's 2010 Citizen of the Year.

Tina Walter is an exemplary citizen of New Enterprise, Pennsylvania, where she has worked as an Emergency Medical Technician for 26 years. Mrs. Walter is a founding member and manager of the Southern Cove Ambulance Service where she presently serves as an EMT, CPR, and First Responder Instructor. She is also a highly regarded firefighter who serves as the President of the Board of Directors of the Southern Cove Fire Company. Mrs. Walter has helped secure over \$200,000 in state and federal grant funds by serving as the grant writer for the Southern Cove Ambulance and Fire Company.

Mrs. Walter has been married for 29 years to the Chief of the Southern Cove Fire Company, Brian Walter. She has two children, one of whom has a severe handicap and requires twenty-four hour care. Because of her schedule as an EMT and Fire Fighter, Mrs. Walter relies on friends and family to help care for her son.

In her spare time, Tina Walter volunteers in nursing homes, schools, service clubs and churches. She also helped form and is the current director of the Southern Cove Fireman's Choir, which is scheduled to sing the National Anthem during a Pittsburgh Pirates game in August. Furthermore, Mrs. Walter is currently spearheading a Rotary committee to bring the first annual "Bluegrass Festival" to New Enterprise in July of this year to benefit the Fire Company.

Tina's efforts and accomplishments serve to exemplify great service of self, service to family, and service to community. I commend those who have seen fit to honor Tina Walter as this year's Bedford Rotary Club's 2010 Citizen of the Year, and I too recognize and congratulate Tina Walter for all she has done.

HONORING THE NEW JERSEY
CONSERVATIVE FOUNDATION

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the New Jersey Conservation Foundation, headquartered in Far Hills, New Jersey, which is celebrating fifty years of successful land preservation.

The New Jersey Conservation Foundation, NJCF, began in 1960 with a small group of concerned citizens determined to fight a plan by the Port Authority of New York to build the region's fourth major airport in the middle of the Great Swamp near Morristown, New Jersey. With great determination and perseverance, the group succeeded. In 1964, they turned over 1,400 acres to the Federal government and on May 29th of that same year, the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge was officially dedicated. It became New Jersey's first National Wildlife Refuge and the first federally designated wilderness area east of the Mississippi.

After this triumphant battle, the committee members made the decision to take the environmental health of the entire state as its responsibility. In 1975, the group officially organized as the New Jersey Conservation Foundation.

NJCF has grown from its roots in the Great Swamp to become one of the Nation's foremost land conservation organizations. Through the support of its staff and trustees, they have helped protect over 100,000 acres of New Jersey farmland, forest and natural areas. From the cedar swamps of the Pine Barrens to the urban parks of Newark and Camden, from the forests of the Highlands to the marshland of the Delaware Bay, NJCF has provided New Jersey land with the protection it deserves.

In addition, NJCF has been at the forefront of every key legislative initiative to protect farmland, forests, and water quality throughout the State. The foundation has been a leader in the passage of historic legislation to protect the Pine Barrens and the Highlands—respectively the Pinelands Protection Act and the New Jersey Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act—as well as every Green Acre bond initiative.

Today, NJCF continues their good work across the State: from Cape May to the Highlands, from the Hudson to the Delaware.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the New Jersey Conservation Foundation for its 50 years of dedicated work on behalf of the great State of New Jersey.

HONORING LEE'S SUMMIT, MISSOURI, MAYOR KAREN MESSERLI

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I proudly rise today to pay tribute to Mayor Karen Messerli, who has graciously served the City of Lee's Summit, Missouri, for twenty-one years as an elected official.

Karen Rose Messerli was elected Mayor on April 4, 1994, becoming the first woman to hold that office in the history of Lee's Summit, a fast-growing community of over 93,000 residents, in the Metropolitan Kansas City Area. This year, Mayor Messerli completed sixteen years of dedicated service as Mayor, a tenure which has been prolific for Lee's Summit as well as Missouri's Fifth Congressional District.

Mayor Messerli is widely recognized as an active leader in the metropolitan area on a variety of regional issues. She was a founding member of the Tri City Mayors Coalition, a coalition of mayors from three major cities in Eastern Jackson County. She also served as a member of the Eastern Jackson County Betterment Council, and worked on the successful campaign for the Bi-State Cultural Tax to renovate Kansas City's Union Station. In October 2000, Mayor Messerli was elected as President of the Missouri Municipal League, an organization of over 610 municipalities in Missouri. Prior to this, she served as Vice President and on the Board of Directors. She has also been extremely active in her support of Hope House, an organization serving battered women, as a member of the Board of Directors and serving as co-chair for the Capital Campaign to build a domestic violence shelter in Lee's Summit.

Mayor Messerli has received numerous awards, including being named the Woman of the Year by the State of Missouri Business and Professional Women Organization in 1998. In 2002, she was one of sixty women featured in the book, "A Power of Her Own" by Kathryn Sommer, a collection of stories about women from the Kansas City area who were the first to make significant strides for women. She was also the recipient of the 2004 Missouri Parks and Recreation Association Public Official Achievement Award. In 2009, she received the Dick King Award from the Missouri Economic Development Financing Association to honor her commitment to economic development and community betterment.

The citizens of Lee's Summit know Mayor Messerli as a respected leader whose integrity has brought trust to the city government. To her family, she is a loving wife, a caring mother of two, and an adoring grandmother of three. In addition to her achievements as a public official, Mayor Messerli is also an accomplished equestrian and has won many awards showing Arabian and national show horses in local, regional, and national circuits.

I first met Karen when I was serving as Mayor of Kansas City, Missouri, and we developed a friendship that has lasted long past my mayoral terms. One of my greatest memories is attending a concert that featured musical legends such as Smokey Robinson and Stevie Wonder with Mayor Messerli while she was visiting Washington, D.C.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues in the House join me in saluting the former Mayor of Lee's Summit, Karen Messerli, for her leadership and many accomplishments for the City of Lee's Summit, Missouri. We wish her the very best as she leaves public office and pursues other endeavors. Thank you to Karen Messerli for choosing to serve. Her time as Mayor not only enriched the community and residents of Lee's Summit, Missouri, but also the entire Fifth Congressional District.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF THE NATIONAL NEWSPAPER
PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the monumental contributions of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) on its 70th anniversary. Founded in 1940 by John H. Sengstacke, the NNPA has served as the voice and advocate of African-Americans, highlighting the historical challenges facing their communities. For several decades, the NNPA has been on the frontlines of the struggle for justice and defense of the rights of African Americans. Its impact has extended beyond publishing to affect the lives and livelihoods of African Americans and the history of the nation.

On June 18th, I was humbled to be honored by the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA) at its 70th Annual Convention in New York City. Alongside Berry Gordy, the iconic founder of Motown Records and a long-time leader in the entertainment industry, I was presented with the Legacy of Excellence Award.

I would like to thank Danny Bakewell, Sr., Chairman of the NNPA and publisher of the Los Angeles Sentinel, the oldest and largest African American newspaper on the West Coast. Under Mr. Bakewell's leadership, the NNPA has thrived as an organization, which he has headed since July of 2009.

I also wish to recognize two stalwart publishers in the New York City NNPA family: Walter Smith, president of the Northeast Publishers Association and publisher of the New York Beacon; and Elinor Tatum, publisher of The New York Amsterdam News, who took over for her father, the great Wilbert A. Tatum, who passed away in February of 2009.

The history of the Black press in the United States dates back to the early 19th century. The first African-American newspaper, Freedom's Journal, was founded in March of 1827 in New York City. Two of its founders, Reverend Samuel Cornish and John B. Russwurm, proclaimed in the very first issue, "Too long have others spoken for us . . . We wish to plead our own cause." The goals of the Black press were to create their own channels of communication for African Americans, expressing their views on social, political, and economic issues of their time.

The existential mission of the Black press was to fiercely oppose, condemn and agitate against the institution of slavery, the atrocities of lynching, the insults of racial segregation and the brutal injustices against African Americans that denied them their civil and political rights, not to mention their humanity. Freedom's Journal and the African American newspapers that followed laid the foundation for Black publishers, editors, journalists, columnists and cartoonists.

Years later, in March of 1940, John H. Sengstacke of the Chicago Defender organized many of this nation's Black publishers at the first annual convention of what was then the National Negro Publishers Association in Chicago. The objective was to provide a venue for Black publishers to acquaint themselves with each other and to jointly address

the problems ailing their industry. A total of 22 Black publications from 16 cities, including Detroit, Philadelphia and Chicago, were represented. This gathering was the birth of what is now known as the National Newspaper Publishers Association, which even today is widely considered as the most powerful and influential Black organization in the United States.

For seven decades, the NNPA has succeeded in championing the concerns, dreams, and triumphs of African Americans in this country. While there have been many successes, there is much work to be done. We need the Black press today as much as ever. They remain our champions in the fight for economic opportunity, affordable health care, quality education, and political representation.

Madam Speaker, I recognize the contributions of the NNPA, which represents over 200 publishers in the United States and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The NNPA has made an important contribution to democracy by ensuring that the voices of African Americans are heard. I invite my colleagues to honor the legacy of the National Newspaper Publishers Association and their enduring contributions to this country's publishing industry, the African American community, and to the nation.

HONORING STEVE SCHMIDT

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Steve Schmidt for being a 2010 inductee into the National Junior College Athletic Association Hall of Fame. Coach Schmidt serves as the Head Men's Basketball Coach at Mott Community College in Flint, Michigan. There will be a salute to his achievements at the college tomorrow.

Steve Schmidt became the Men's Head Basketball Coach at Mott Community College in 1991 and over the past 19 years he has led his team to 3 national championships in 2003, 2007, and 2008. During this time they have never posted a losing record and have won 25 or more games in the last 15 seasons. Under Coach Schmidt's leadership his teams have won 12 conference titles, 7 state championships, and 6 regional championships. At the end of the 2009–2010 season Coach Schmidt's career record is 504–119. He has been named the National Junior College Athletic Association Coach of the Year 3 times, has coached 3 NJCAA Players of the Year and 15 All-Americans.

Coach Schmidt began his coaching career at Lansing Waverly High School and Lansing Community College working without pay. At the age of 28 he was given the job as Men's Head Basketball Coach at Mott Community College and his success with the team has been recognized throughout the community. Three years ago he was inducted into the Greater Flint Sports Hall of Fame and a year ago the gymnasium at Ballenger Fieldhouse was named in his honor.

He credits teamwork as an integral part of his success and has said, "The fact of the matter is I've not won a single game by myself. I've been part of a team. All of this is

possible because of the efforts of all these players. That's a perspective I've never lost."

Madam Speaker, please join me in applauding the work of Coach Steve Schmidt's work and dedication to his players. I commend him for his skill, his enthusiasm, and his respect for the players. I wish him continued success in his career coaching men's basketball.

TRIBUTE TO THE ELM SPRING BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, let me take this means to congratulate the Elm Spring Baptist Church of Holden, Missouri, on the occasion of its 150th anniversary.

The Elm Spring Baptist Church has undergone many changes since the church's first pastor, George Minton, led the 15 founding members in worship for the first time in July of 1860. Pastor Minton led the congregation until the Civil War disrupted their worship services for six years. After this brief disruption, the church resumed services and constructed the first building on land graciously donated by the Jonathan Newman family. As the congregation has grown, so too has the church's campus; today, the original building is joined by an educational building, a baptistery, and a parsonage. The newest structure is a Fellowship Hall built in 2000.

In recent years, members of the church have focused on serving communities across the United States and the world. To this end, the congregation has led mission trips to Pittsburgh, Orlando, Greenville, and Palissa, Uganda. For 150 years, the Elm Spring Baptist Church has been "Growing the Family of God," and they show no sign of stopping.

Madam Speaker, I trust my fellow Members of the House will join me in congratulating the Elm Spring Baptist Church on the occasion of its 150th anniversary and in wishing its members the best of luck in all future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING 235TH BIRTHDAY OF U.S. ARMY

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 16, 2010

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 286, recognizing the 235th birthday of the United States Army. I rise today to commemorate the birthday of the Army, and the service of every man and woman who has served our country and kept its citizens safe. From the twenty-thousand-man Army first authorized in June of 1775 to the more than half a million in the Army today, millions of soldiers have sacrificed for our Nation. In addition to recognizing this birthday of the Army, I rise to thank and salute all of those in uniform, whether in the active forces, the Reserves, or the National Guard, and the civilian support staff that makes their missions possible. I thank their families as well for the sacrifices they have made.

For more than two centuries, the U.S. Army has protected our borders, responded to threats to our homeland, and helped the people of America in times of need. I am honored to have served in the U.S. Army, and I am proud to represent Fort Bragg, Pope Air Force Base and their surrounding communities.

Born fully twelve years before the Constitution was written, the Army has proven to be our Nation's most enduring institution. North Carolina's tradition of military service, patriotism, and respect for the military goes back to those earliest days. In fact, the Second District's first Representative was an Army veteran, Hugh Williamson. I am honored to continue that tradition.

Even better than "Happy Birthday" is "Welcome Home". We rejoice every time our soldiers return home from their service safely. This fall, we anticipate that the entire 82nd Airborne will be home in North Carolina for the first time in many years. I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating these daily individual returns while we celebrate the institution and its history as a whole.

As we honor this U.S. Army at this significant milestone, we cannot forget that there is a greater need for commitments than for congratulations. I call on my colleagues who join me today in support of this Joint Resolution to also commit to continued support for the funding the Army needs for its ongoing missions, and to support for TRICARE, mental health care, higher education, and military family needs as these heroes return home.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution, and in celebration of the continued success of America's Army.

THE FEDERAL HOUSING ADMINIS- TRATION REFORM ACT OF 2010

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Federal Housing Administration Reform Act of 2010 (H.R. 5072). This legislation will help ensure the availability of affordable home loans while safeguarding the interests of the American taxpayer.

The Federal Housing Administration (FHA) has played a crucial role in stabilizing the nation's housing market during the current recession. Since the financial crisis and credit crisis that followed, nearly 40 million qualified Americans became homeowners and arne insurance through the FHA. The FHA was critical to keeping mortgage loans flowing to credit-worthy home buyers during the foreclosure crisis. As private lenders fled the housing market, the insurance provided by the FHA helped prevent the housing decline from becoming even more severe.

The FHA Reform Act of 2010 will strengthen the FHA loan insurance program and help keep credit available and affordable to responsible homebuyers. Over the last year, the FHA implemented a number of policy changes aimed at curbing risk and increasing its capital reserves. This legislation builds on these reforms and helps reduce risk by increasing net worth requirements for FHA loan originators

and providing the FHA with authority to prevent fraudulent lending. In addition, this bill increases accountability by requiring the FHA to modernize its reporting systems to better manage risk and to provide transparent data to the public and Congress.

This legislation helps restore fiscal accountability by reducing our deficit by \$2.5 billion over five years.

The Federal Housing Administration Reform Act of 2010 makes essential reforms to strengthen the financial footing of the Federal Housing Administration and stabilize the mortgage market. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING THE NAACP ON ITS
101ST ANNIVERSARY

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 16, 2010

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 101st anniversary of the Na-

tional Association for the Advancement of Colored People, NAACP, which was founded on February 12, 1909. Throughout its existence, the NAACP has faithfully promoted equality in all areas of American society, from suffrage and public accommodation to justice in our Nation's courts and equality in employment.

For nearly a century, the NAACP has pressed for an inclusive American society, one that would grant all people the equality they deserve, regardless of the shade or color of their skin. The NAACP's principled efforts towards the advancement of people who were long denied their rightful place at work, school, and the ballot box have continued to come to fruition with the Civil Rights Acts, the Fair Housing Act, and other breakthroughs in the establishment of justice and quality in this country.

A key component of the success of the NAACP has been the implementation of a nonviolent approach to achieve equality and justice. Its efforts include the promotion of understanding and education, to the eradication of race and other problems that have long plagued our society. The NAACP has helped put students through college, give the vote

back to the voiceless, and ensure that the American people will not continue to be divided by differences, but rather be brought together by mutual compassion and kinship.

The mission of the NAACP continues today and the Saint Paul Branch of the NAACP continues to work towards equality, education and justice for all. My local NAACP chapter is well known for its tireless work addressing the injustices affecting individuals and the diverse communities of Minnesota.

It is with great admiration that I commend the NAACP on this occasion of their 101st anniversary. The necessity of the continued push for equality and justice for all citizens presents a great burden that we bear collectively, but the work of groups such as the NAACP gives our society the necessary guidance and reminder of our responsibilities towards one another.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to the courageous and guiding history of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People on this day of their 101st anniversary.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, June 24, 2010 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JUNE 28

12:30 p.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Elena Kagan, of Massachusetts, to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

SD-216

JUNE 29

10 a.m.

Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine fueling local economies, focusing on research, innovation and jobs.

SD-106

2:30 p.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Rose M. Likins, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Peru, and Peter Michael McKinley, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Colombia, both of the Department of State, Mark Feierstein, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, and Mimi E. Alemayehou, of the District of Columbia, to be Executive Vice President of

the Overseas Private Investment Corporation.

SD-419

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine the continuing needs of workers and communities affected by 9/11.

SD-430

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to consider certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

JUNE 30

9:30 a.m.

Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold hearings to examine farm bill reauthorization, focusing on maintaining our domestic food supply through a strong United States farm policy.

SR-328A

Indian Affairs

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business; to be immediately followed by an oversight hearing to examine diabetes in Indian country and beyond.

SD-628

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the Deepwater Horizon tragedy, focusing on holding industry accountable.

SR-253

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine nuclear terrorism, focusing on strengthening our domestic defenses, part 1.

SD-342

2 p.m.

Aging

To hold hearings to examine drug waste and disposal, focusing on when prescriptions become poison.

SD-106

2:30 p.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Contracting Oversight Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine interagency contracts (part II).

SD-342

JULY 1

9:30 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine S. 3452, to designate the Valles Caldera National Preserve as a unit of the National Park System.

SD-366

Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine veterans' claims processing, focusing on if current efforts are working.

SR-418

10 a.m.

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Employment and Workplace Safety Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine workplace safety and worker protections at BP.

SD-430

2:30 p.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine preventing and recovering government payment errors.

SD-342

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to consider certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

JULY 21

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine improvements to the post-9/11 Government Issue (GI) Bill.

SR-418

AUGUST 5

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SR-418

SEPTEMBER 22

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine a legislative presentation focusing on the American Legion.

345, Cannon Building

SEPTEMBER 23

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine Veterans' Affairs disability compensation, focusing on presumptive disability decision-making.

SR-418